



JANUARY 1992



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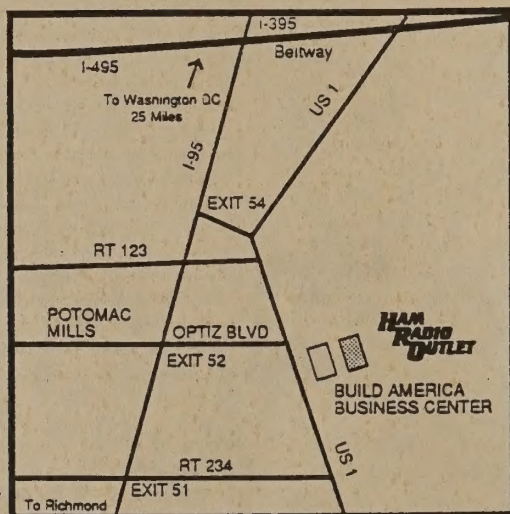
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AUTO-CALL

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Arlington Amateur Radio Club
Baltimore Amateur Radio Club
Baltimore Radio Amateur Television Society
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Maryland Emergency Phone Net
Maryland FM Association
Maryland Mobileers Amateur Radio Club
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Metrovision Amateur TV Club
Montgomery Amateur Radio Club
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Mount Vernon Amateur Radio Club
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Naval Research Laboratory Radio Club
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Shenandoah Valley Amateur Radio Club
Southern Maryland Amateur Radio Club
Southern Patuxent Amateur Radio Club
Stafford Amateur Radio Assn
Sterling Park Amateur Radio Club
Tri-County Amateur Radio Club
T-MARC, The Middle Atlantic FM & Repeater Council
Vienna Wireless Society
Washington Adventist Amateur Radio Association
Washington Area Young Ladies' Amateur Radio Club
Woodbridge Wireless, Inc.

EDITORIAL

by **Tony Young - WA3YLO**
FAR Executive Vice President

Holiday greetings from the active trustees at the Foundation for Amateur Radio and the staff of *Auto-Call*. We hope 1992 brings you joy and good health. When we recall December of 1941, 1951, 1971, and 1991, we can be thankful for the peace we enjoy as we begin this new year.

A history of Amateur Radio over that past 50 years is being prepared for presentation to member clubs. The highlights of event and people who led local clubs AND the Foundation will be offered on slides and narrated by one of the FAR staff. Watch *Auto-Call* for more information later.

Looking now toward the future, we are expecting to add several new clubs to FAR in 1992, as well as the administration of several additional scholarships. FAR will again co-sponsor the SPRING BANQUET and organize the September F.A.R.FEST. (The banquet will be held on May 10, so make a date with your best gal for Mother's Day evening. This year's speaker will appeal to all!

Got your new year resolutions all lined up? Well, we at FAR do, too. One of them is to reach the leadership of each member club to update trustee information and to invite participation by all FAR clubs. We know we will fail to reach a few and will be seeking YOUR help on these pages in the next few months. We are anxious to get our records in good order.

Speaking of resolutions, what about that recognition you have been going to do for that great ham in YOUR CLUB! There are so many people in the Greater Washington area who have done so much for ham radio and deserve special attention. The trouble is, no one ever gets "round tuit." YOUR Foundation and YOUR *Auto-Call* have a great "Ham of the Month" showplace for recognizing outstanding hams from within our more than 50 clubs. Submit your nominee to the FAR Ham of the Month committee or write to *Auto-Call* for guidelines, **BUT DO IT NOW!**

Tony - WA3YLO

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Coming Events

- | | |
|-----------|---|
| Jan 1 | ARRL Straight Key Night |
| Jan 4-5 | ARRL Digital Roundup - Packet-RTTY-AMTOR-ASCII |
| Jan 15 | BARC MiniFest, Timonium Fairgrounds |
| Jan 18-19 | VHF Sweepstakes |
| Jan 19 | Richmond Frostfest, Richmond, Virginia (See Page 22) |
| Jan 22 | Spacelab Mission |
| Jan 26 | WinterFare, Columbia, Pennsylvania |
| Jan 25 | ARRL Novice Roundup |
| | |
| Feb 1-29 | VOA 50th Anniversary QSO Party |
| Feb 15-16 | ARRL DX Contest |
| Feb 23 | Vienna WINTERFEST™, Vienna Virginia (See Page 33) |
| Feb 29 | Cumberland County Winter Hamfest, Camp Hill, PA (See Page 30) |
| | |
| Mar ? | Next SAREX mission, STS-45 - 57% Inclination |
| Mar 1 | York Springfest, York, Pennsylvania (See Page 26) |
| Mar 28-29 | Timonium Hamfest, Timonium (Baltimore), Maryland |
| | |
| Apr 12 | Penn-Del ARC Hamfest, New Castle, Delaware |
| Apr 19 | Carroll County Computerfest & Hamboree, Westminster, Maryland |
| Apr 24-26 | Dayton Hamvention, Dayton, Ohio |
| | |
| May 10 | FAR/QCWA Annual Spring Banquet, Greenbelt, Maryland |
| May 10 | Roanoke Valley Hamfest, Vinton (Roanoke), Virginia |
| May 15-17 | Rochester Hamfest, Rochester, New York |
| May 24 | Maryland FM Assn. Hamfest, Howard County Fairgrounds |
| | |
| Jun 7 | Ole Virginia Hams Hamfest, Manassas, Virginia |
| Jun 21 | Frederick Hamfest, Frederick, Maryland |
| | |
| July 26 | BRATS Hamfest and Computer Fest, Timonium, Maryland |
| | |
| Aug 2 | Shennandoah Valley Hamfest, Berryville, Virginia |
| Aug ? | Southern Patuxent Hamfest, Uper Marlboro, Maryland |
| | |
| Sep 5-6 | Shelby Hamfest, Shelby, North Carolina |
| Sep 13 | F.A.R. FEST, Gaithersburg, Maryland |
| Sep 19-20 | Virginia Beach Hamfest, Virginia Beach, Virginia |
| | |
| Oct 4 | Howard County CARA Hamfest, Howard County Fairgrounds |
| Oct 18 | Cumberland County Hamfest, Carlisle, Pennsylvania |
| | |
| Nov 1 | Mason-Dixon Hamfest, Westminster, Maryland |
| | |
| Dec 6 | HolidayFest '92, Largo, Maryland |

Thanks to Bob Milligan - KI4MB and the SERA Repeater Journal for providing much of the above information. Please keep Auto-Call advised of coming Hamfests and other important Coming Events. We are anxious to provide our readers with timely information and help to avoid possible conflicts when scheduling activities.

We can use all the help we can get!

THE NEW GENERATION ROTATORS

THEY'RE NOT YOUR FATHER'S HAM "M"

Rotator Comparison Chart

Model/Specs	The New Generation									Old Generation	
	Create RCS	Create RCSA	Create RC5B	Emoto 105TSX	Emoto 747SRX	Emoto 1105MSX	Emoto 1200PFX	Emoto 1300MSAX	Emoto 1800FSX	Telex Ham/V	Telex TX2
Rotate Torque Ft/Lb	43	116	160	37	50	57	143	215	287	67	83
GD ² Kgm ²	N/A	N/A	N/A	100	400	700	1000	1800	3000	N/A	N/A
Anti Inertia	506	1085	1450	215	502	717	1290	1792	2150	417	750
Wind Load In Tower (lb)	10	25	25	11	22	27	27	33	36	15	20
Mast mount	4	5	7	5	9	12	12	15	16	7.5	10
Rotating speed 360°	60-150 sec variable	60-150 sec variable	60-150 sec variable	55	35	65	40	77	80	60	60
Rev. Delay	None	2 sec	3 sec							None	None
Preset	Oct 3	Oct 3	yes	no	no	Opt	yes	yes	yes	no	no
Computer	no	no	no	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	no
Power 120V 60Hz	80VA	140VA	200VA	70VA	70VA	70VA	90VA	120VA	150VA	26V AC	26V AC
Mast Dia	2-2.5 in	2-2.5 in	2-2.5 in	2-2.4 in	1.6-2.4 in	1.6-2.4 in	1.6-2.4 in	2.4-3.1 in	3.5-5.5 in	2 in	2 in
Control wire	7 cond	7 cond	7 cond	7 cond	7 cond	7 cond	7 cond	7 cond	7 cond	8 cond	8 cond
Vertical max load #	880	1540	1540	660	1100	880	1760	1760	2200	400	800
Motor w/v	13	17	20	7.5	9	11	11	13	39.5	24	28
Brake type	worm drive	worm drive	worm drive	disk	friction	friction	friction	friction	friction	wedge	wedge
Self center mast clamp	yes	yes	yes	Adj	Adj	Adj	Adj	Adj	Adj	no	no
Special notes	3-6	3-6	3-6	6	1-6	6	2-6	6	6	4-7	4-7
Phoning (lb)	\$269.00	\$449.95	\$799.00	\$209.95	\$399.00	\$589.00	\$679.00	\$1099.00	\$272.00	\$369.95	\$439.95
With Preset	\$379.00	\$528.95				\$663.00					

Notes:

1. Turns Tibander 470° in 35 seconds

4. TX2 and Ham/V have same motor and gear train parts

7. 120V normal 220V special order

2. Variable speed 40 sec max

5. EEB prices as of 5/91 subject to change

8. Wind Load in Sq. Feet

3. Variable speed w/SCR constant rotational torque at any speed

6. 120/220 tapped transformer

THE NEW GENERATION

An entire generation of amateurs have grown up knowing only one rotator manufacturer. Those old favorites are still popular. But, now a new generation of rotators are out to set high standards with innovative features such as: large machined steel gears, cast and machined aluminum cases, solid state controllers for smooth start/stop, preset, computer control and circular position indicators.

The bottom line is... strong, long term reliability, ease of operation and cost effectiveness. When you erect an antenna system the last thing you need is rotor problems!

CREATIVE DESIGN ROTATORS

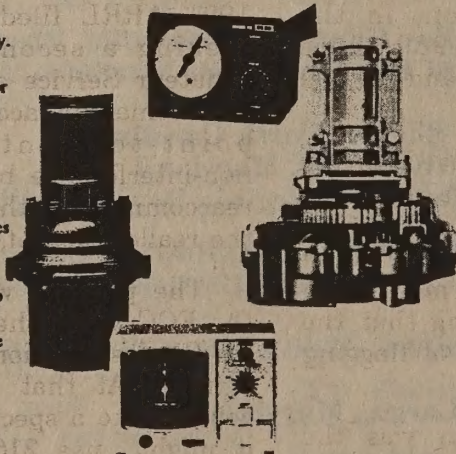
CREATE is serious about long term reliability. The CREATE RCS series rotators were designed with the serious DX'er in mind. Three models for medium, large and ultra large antenna arrays are available.

ROTOR FEATURES OF RCS SERIES

- Large strong reduction gear system provides long term reliability during years of rugged operation.
- Worm drive gearing provides powerful braking force and low backlash to keep your antenna in position during severe weather conditions.
- Cast and machined aluminum case provide the strength required for long lasting service.
- Mast clamp guides for ease of mast installation.

CONTROLLER FEATURES OF RC5 SERIES

- Speed control using silicon control rectifiers allows slow speed without reduction in rotation torque. Rotating spec is constant 60 to 200 seconds per 360 degrees.
- Reverse delay control (RDC). Delays reverse command to rotor until antenna is at rest. Prevents damage to rotor antenna and tower system.
- Circular dial indicator, for quick accurate reading of antenna direction. Great circle overlay available for USA (west-cent-east).
- Preset (on 3 models) a must for quick setting of antenna direction. Just turn the knob to the new heading, the rest is automatic. Won't waste your time holding down the brake lever and wait.



EMOTO ROTATORS

More than 60% of all Japan amateurs use EMOTO rotators. Many unique innovations and international patents have made EMOTO number one.

EMOTO has a fool proof method to calculate which of their rotators will satisfy your needs. This GD² formula considers your antenna (s) weight, boom and longest element length. The EMOTO sheet is in metric so one must convert weight 2.2lbs= 1kg and length in meters 3.3ft.=1 meter. Calculate your GD² then compare EMOTO GD² spec above.

$$GD = W \times \frac{L+B}{12}$$

Where: W: weight of antenna (kg)
L: length of longest element (m)
B: length of boom(m)

GD² EXAMPLES: Kgm²

TH7DX (437), TH3JR (63), 205BA (675), DISC7-3 (1300), A3S (61), A4S (173), KLM KT34XA (378), 3 ELE TRIBAND (150), 6 ELE TRIBAND (400), 20M 5 ELE (750), 15M 6 ELE (650), 40M 2 ELE SHORT BOOM (240), 40M 2 ELE FULL BOOM (800), 80M 2 ELE (1500), STACK ARRAYS 10M 5 ELE (60), 15M 5 ELE (200), 20M 5 ELE (750), 60+200+750=1010

EMOTO also has a robust AZ-EL rotator that has computer I/O ports. For those working satellites or EME moon bounce the EV700D5X should do the job, as rotating torque is more than double the YAESU G5400B AZ-EL.

EEB

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FCC HIGHLIGHTS

by Jack Kelleher - W4ZC

Digital Audio Broadcasting

(ARRL Letter, 11/14/91). "On October 31 the FCC announced an agreement with the Executive Branch that the U.S. will seek an allocation for satellite and complementary digital audio broadcasting at 2.3 GHz, specifically at 2310 to 2360 MHz.

"In ITU Regions 2 and 3' (Region 2 is the Western Hemisphere; Region 3 is the Pacific basin) "Amateur stations are allocated 2300-2310 and 2390 to 2450 MHz on a shared basis." [Ed: These are U.S. domestic allocations on a Secondary basis; the ITU allocation is 2300-2450 MHz to the Amateur Service on a Secondary basis].

Gateway of Choice

(ARRL Letter, 11-14-91). The FCC has released Amateur licensing figures for the end of September -- the end of the Federal fiscal year -- and "The pendulum has swung strongly toward the Technician license being the gateway of choice into Amateur Radio," ARRL EVP David Sumner, K1ZZ, said.

In the 12 months beginning October 1990 there were 38,363 new Amateur licenses issued and 30,825 upgrades. Both figures represent increases over the previous year as well as earlier years. For comparison, in the 12 months beginning October 1989 there were 26,134 new licenses issued and 29,699 upgrades."

2,407 new Amateurs were licensed during September - the lowest number since February. However, Sumner said: "the backlog of unprocessed applications at the FCC in Gettysburg Pennsylvania grew by more than 1,200 during the month, suggesting that the dip is more the result of that than of flagging interest".

Looks as if no-code Technician was the way to go, doesn't it? ed.

Potential Interference from ISM Devices

(ARRL Letter 11-14-91) "The FCC has issued a Notice of Inquiry, seeking input on radio noise generated by industrial, scientific and

medical equipment (ISM). The NOI, released November 6, 1991 (ET Docket 91-313) asks if it is "desirable and feasible" to harmonize FCC rules with the international standards for ISM equipment.

The FCC defines ISM equipment as that designed to generate and use RF energy to perform some work other than telecommunications. Examples include dielectric heating used in sealing plastics; induction heaters for welding pipes; medical diathermy and electrosurgical equipment; industrial microwave heaters; domestic microwave ovens; ultrasonic cleaning equipment; and medical diagnostic equipment.

The purpose of the FCC NOI is two-fold: to gather information useful in establishing positions with regard to CCIR (International Radio Consultative Committee) and CISPR (International Special Committee on Radio Interference) activities in this field, and to aid in formulating changes to FCC regulations if it becomes necessary or wise to conform to international standards.

More on 216-225 MHz

(W5YI Reports, 11-1-91 & 12-1-91) In June 1991 ARRL filed a petition with the FCC seeking a secondary allocation for the Amateur Service at 216-220 MHz., proposing that Amateur access be authorized only for point-to-point fixed operation on a non-interference basis. One objective was to reaccommodate those Amateurs displaced by the reallocation of 220-222 MHz.

The petition was more or less invited by the FCC when they rejected ARRL's Petition for Reconsideration of the 220-222 MHz reallocation. At that time the FCC said ARRL could make a specific proposal supporting how it might use 216-220 MHz without causing interference to existing users or to TV channel 13 operations at 210-216 MHz. The FCC accepted the petition for rulemaking and assigned it RM-7747. (Details in W5YI Report, 11-1-91, page 7).

(Continued)

FCC Highlights - Continued

Recently, in Reply Comments to RM 7747, ARRL emphasized that Amateur Service fixed-station access to 216-220 MHz. can work. It described the TV industry's opposition to the idea as "inflammatory" and "unsupported", and welcomes further discussions with maritime communications interests that operate in 216-220 MHz.

The key use of the 216-220 MHz portion would be for packet network links. ARRL wants the FCC to require coordination of all ham operations in 216-220 MHz, with the League as "sole database administrator and coordinator [which] will know the exact location, telephone number and system configuration of every station operating at 216-220 MHz". This information is supposed to help ARRL quickly identify and resolve interference and to assuage the fears of other services, notably the TV broadcast industry.

Separately, ARRL petitioned for the FCC to disallow repeater and auxiliary operations at 222.0 - 222.150 MHz, to protect the band for "passive lunar reflection stations" (moonbounce) and propagation studies, among others: in effect, to create a subband for weak signal communications. Some repeaters will have to move, ARRL told the FCC, and others, especially in Southern California, "may not be able to move . . . and may have to go off the air". (W5YI Report, 12-1-91; which has much more detail)

Probe of VE Testing

First-ever "Ham on Ham" Probe of VE Testing. (Westlink Report, 11-27-91)

"A four month "ham on ham" undercover sting of Los Angeles area Amateur Radio training schools and volunteer examiners has netted evidence of what the FCC calls possible wide-spread "irregularities." Ten VEs have been decertified and a probe of at least one training facility has been undertaken by the FCC.

Dave Morse, WW7K, who heads up the Los Angeles Amateur Radio FCC Auxiliary, says that his group, acting in concert with the Field Operations Bureau of the FCC, began the first of its kind investigation last summer with undercover operatives equipped with recording devices to capture exactly what was said in a given examination session.

As a direct result of the "ham on ham" probe by the Los Angeles FCC Auxiliary group, the Commission has initiated its own investigation of the Volunteer Examiners who performed testing for an organization known as the California Amateur Radio School. It has established an official case file on each VE, and has sent each a letter demanding answers to specific questions. The letters threaten license revocation if any fail to fully cooperate"

Westlink has obtained a copy of one of the letters and quotes it in the Westlink Report.

Happy New Year
1992



American Radio Relay League Report

By John Swafford -- W4HU

This ARRL Report provides a brief summary of information published in the ARRL LETTER and other reports. The LETTER provides timely news of interest to active Radio Amateurs. Any League member may subscribe to the ARRL LETTER.

Petitions Seek Relief on 222-MHz Band.

The ARRL has initiated action on three fronts to improve Amateurs' position on the 222 MHz band.

On November 12, 1991, the League petitioned the FCC to remove frequency restrictions on the use of the band by Novice class licensees, and at the same time in a separate filing sought reinstatement of a "weak signal" segment at the bottom of the 222 MHz band similar to, but smaller than, the segment previously available at 220.0-220.5 MHz. These proposals came as the League continued to press for Amateur access on a shared basis to 216-220 MHz. All three proposals are in response to changes in the usage of the band following Amateurs' loss of the 220-222 MHz segment to land mobile interests on August 27, 1991.

In its request for rulemaking regarding Novice privileges, RM-7868, the League asks that restrictions limiting Novices to 222.10-223.91 MHz be lifted. Those restrictions hark to the Commission's original 1987 Report and Order in Docket 86-161. At that time the League had requested access to the entire band 220-225 MHz for Novices, to encourage cross-culturalization with other, more experienced Amateurs on the band.

The League's petition points out that before 1987 Novice class Amateur licensees had no privileges in the 220-225 MHz band, or (since withdrawal of the 145-147 MHz privileges some years earlier) in any other VHF or UHF band. The League and others had petitioned the Commission to "enhance" the Novice class of license by adding certain limited operating privileges that would broaden their experience with different aspects of Amateur Radio operation, to encourage Novices to maintain an interest in the Amateur Radio Service and upgrade their license class through technical and operational self-training.

Cosmonaut U2MIR Visits United States

Russian cosmonaut Musa Manarov, U2MIR/UV3AM, visited Texas and Connecticut recently to talk with Amateurs, narrate films of his flights, and meet the press. Manarov holds the world record for continuous time aloft, 366 days, aboard the space station MIR on a flight concluded in December, 1988. A subsequent flight earlier this year brought his total time in space to 541 days. Manarov was active on the 2-meter band as U2MIR during both flights (see QST for November, 1989, p51). A radio-electronics engineer, he trained for nine years before first venturing into space.

Manarov and his Amateur Radio mentor Boris Stepanov - UW3AX, who is deputy editor-in-chief of **Radio** magazine, were the guests of the Houston Ham Conventions, Inc. ("HamCon"), this year's sponsor of the ARRL South Texas Section Convention held in Houston November 9 and 10. The visit was arranged by the Texas DX Society, and especially through the efforts of their incoming president, Jim Carmody - NN5O.

On November 8 Manarov visited the Johnson Space Center (Amateur Radio club W5RRR). Both there and at HamCon he showed videotapes depicting his record-setting flight from beginning to end, including press conferences at the Soviet launch facility and ham activity both aboard MIR and earthbound.

In Houston, Manarov drew attention to both Amateur Radio and HamCon through interviews on two local television outlets. Meanwhile, Stepanov appeared at the convention's contest forum, which was highlighted by a presentation on the recent ZA1A Albania training and operating project. On hand for that were Martti Laine - OH2BH, and Chip Margelli - K7JA, both ZA1A instructors/operators; and Rusty Epps - W6OAT, Northern California DX Foundation liaison for the project and its QSL manager.

ARRL Report - Continued

Stepanov was old friends with these three, having worked together with them at the World RadioSport Team Championship in Seattle in July, 1990.

Following the convention Manarov and Stepanov came to Connecticut as guests of the ARRL. While this was the second visit to the US for both, neither previously had visited Newington. During a showing of the space film at Headquarters, Stepanov likened the inside of the MIR spacecraft, a tangle of cables and hoses, "to a normal hamshack." At another point he primed the audience for a "soft landing" of the capsule containing the returning cosmonauts, which then proceeded to hit the ground in a cloud of dust that must have been visible to the cosmonauts still aboard MIR in orbit!

Manarov, Stepanov and ARRL Executive Vice President David Sumner - K1ZZ, held a brief press conference attended by several of the local media. Two newspapers, a television station and an all-news radio station covered the event. Stepanov told reporters that there is "very good cooperation between the US and the Soviet Union in promoting Amateur Radio worldwide."

Manarov was asked how political unrest in the USSR might affect its space program. "Space travel has had many benefits to life on earth," Manarov said, "and the Soviet Union has devoted a large percentage of its resources over the years to space. But it is difficult to predict how much money will be available in the future," he said.

When asked about the physical and psychological effects of 366 days in space, Manarov replied that it was "good to have personal communications with family and friends by Amateur Radio" during his flights.

Manarov, who has recently been elected a member of the parliament of the Russian Republic, was ambivalent when asked his opinion of reforms taking place there. "Some reform, yes, some no," he said. "It is complicated. Russia may be moving too fast toward democracy, and some changes are really not democratic but more like anarchy," he said.

The reporters met QST and QEX columnist Stan Horzepa - WA1LOU, who had succeeded in making packet radio contact with Manarov, U2MIR, from the MIR spacecraft. The two exchanged QSL cards.

"American hams," Stepanov told the reporters, "were especially interested in talking to Musa aboard MIR. And it was a real challenge to Musa to handle all the business," he said.

Following the press conference, Manarov spoke to four schools in the Dallas area from W1AW, through net control station W5MIR. Participating in the educational event were the Miller Elementary School in Arlington; the Jackie Cardin Elementary School in Crowley; Crowley High School; and the North Hi Mount School in Ft. Worth. On the drive back to the Newark, New Jersey airport from Connecticut, Manarov, Stepanov, and ARRL International Programs Manager Nao Akiyama, attempted a contact with MIR. "We were at a rest stop on the new Jersey Turnpike," Akiyama said, "and we heard U5MIR with a strong signal, at 2205 UTC. The operator, Sergey, worked a station in the Azores, a W2, and a W5, but we were unable to get through with our handheld."

DXCC Names Field Representatives, Begins Record Conversion.

ARRL President Larry Price - W4RA, has named the first group of DXCC field representatives for the checking of QSL Cards for initial DXCC applications. These 110 DXers will be available to check QSLs for applicants from a core group of 250 DXCC countries. To be eligible, a field representative himself must have a DXCC total of at least 300 and be nominated by an affiliated DX club with at least 25 DXCC members.

The first 110 field representatives include 7 from the First Call Area; 7 from the Second; 2 from the Third; 20 from the Fourth; 20 from the Fifth; 23 from the Sixth; 2 from the Seventh; 7 from the Eighth; 10 from the Ninth; and 13 from the Tenth.

DXCC applicants wishing to have their QSLs checked in the field should first obtain the proper forms from HQ.

ARRL Report - Continued

Also, it now is possible for many DXCC members to submit endorsement applications on diskette. If your DXCC certificate is dated before June 1, 1990, and an IBM-PC or compatible computer is available, a package from HQ called the DXCC Record Conversion Program will enable you to fill in your own data on the diskette. The diskette and QSL cards then are returned to HQ for processing and for updating the DXCC record.

TV Expose Puts Seattle Hams on Alert.

Amateurs in the Seattle area sprung into action when they heard that a local TV station, KOMO, planned an unflattering piece on Amateur Radio. Promos for the segment, to be run on the "Northwest Afternoon" show, suggest to Jack Klamm, W7DMN, that the show would describe how a local ham had harassed a neighbor with RFI until she was forced to move.

Klamm phoned ARRL Headquarters and was put in touch with Public Information Manager Steve Mansfield. After hearing his story, Mansfield suggested that the promo for the show might be more provocative than the actual story and suggest that:

- o The station would not react favorably to an effort at prior restraint;

- o Making fun of a class of people does not constitute slander, no matter how uncomfortable it may make individuals;

- o Overreacting, especially before the show was aired, might add credence to the show's premise and could even inspire the producers to do a follow-up on the local amateurs' reaction.

Mansfield then spoke to Chris Irwin, a member of the show's production staff. She said "Neighbors from Hell" concerned resolving neighborhood problems, with the segment featuring a ham-neighbor misunderstanding (and used as the promo) as just part of the total package.

Irwin said she regretted the confusion and said it might be possible to arrange air time for a response if the program was unfair to hams.

ARRL Northwestern Division Director Mary Lewis, W7QGP, reported that her phone "was ringing off the hook" and noted that the story had been reported in the March 1990 issue of QST -- and that the "neighbor from hell" was

not the ham, but his neighbor! The program itself was "generally innocuous," according to Klamm. He spoke to the show's producer afterward and mentioned local hams who could help solve any remaining RFI problems the "neighbor" in question might have. Klamm suggested to the producer that this might be a good opportunity to demonstrate how effective Northwest Afternoon was in helping people resolve their problems (not so coincidentally, with the help of local hams!).

"I suggest to Mr. Klamm that he had a career in public relations should be ever want to come out of retirement," Mansfield said.

Briefs

- o As announced by the FCC, the maximum reimbursement for volunteer examiner tests in 1992 will be \$5.44, up from \$5.27 in 1991. The ARRL VEC will charge \$5.40 for examinations for Technician or higher class licenses in 1992.

- o 149 US representatives are now co-sponsors of H.R. 73, the "Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act of 1991." 19 US senators are co-sponsors of the companion senate bill, S. 1372.

- o The ARRL seeks nominations for the 1991 International Humanitarian Award, honoring hams who, through Amateur Radio, promote the welfare of mankind by assisting people in need throughout the world. A group or person also is eligible based on extraordinary service during a crisis or disaster. Send nominations by December 31 to Rick Palm - K1CE, Field Services Manager, at ARRL HQ.

- o At its annual meeting November 9, 1991, the AMSAT-NA board of directors elected officers for the coming year. They are Chairman of the Board, Doug Loughmiller - KO5I; President, William Tynan - W3XO; Executive Vice President, Ray Souifer - W2RS; and Vice President for Operations, Keith Pugh - W5IU. Continuing as Vice President, Engineering is Jan King - W3GEY.

- o Retired ARRL general manager John Huntoon - W1RW is recovering from an emergency appendectomy. Get-well wishes should go to his home address.

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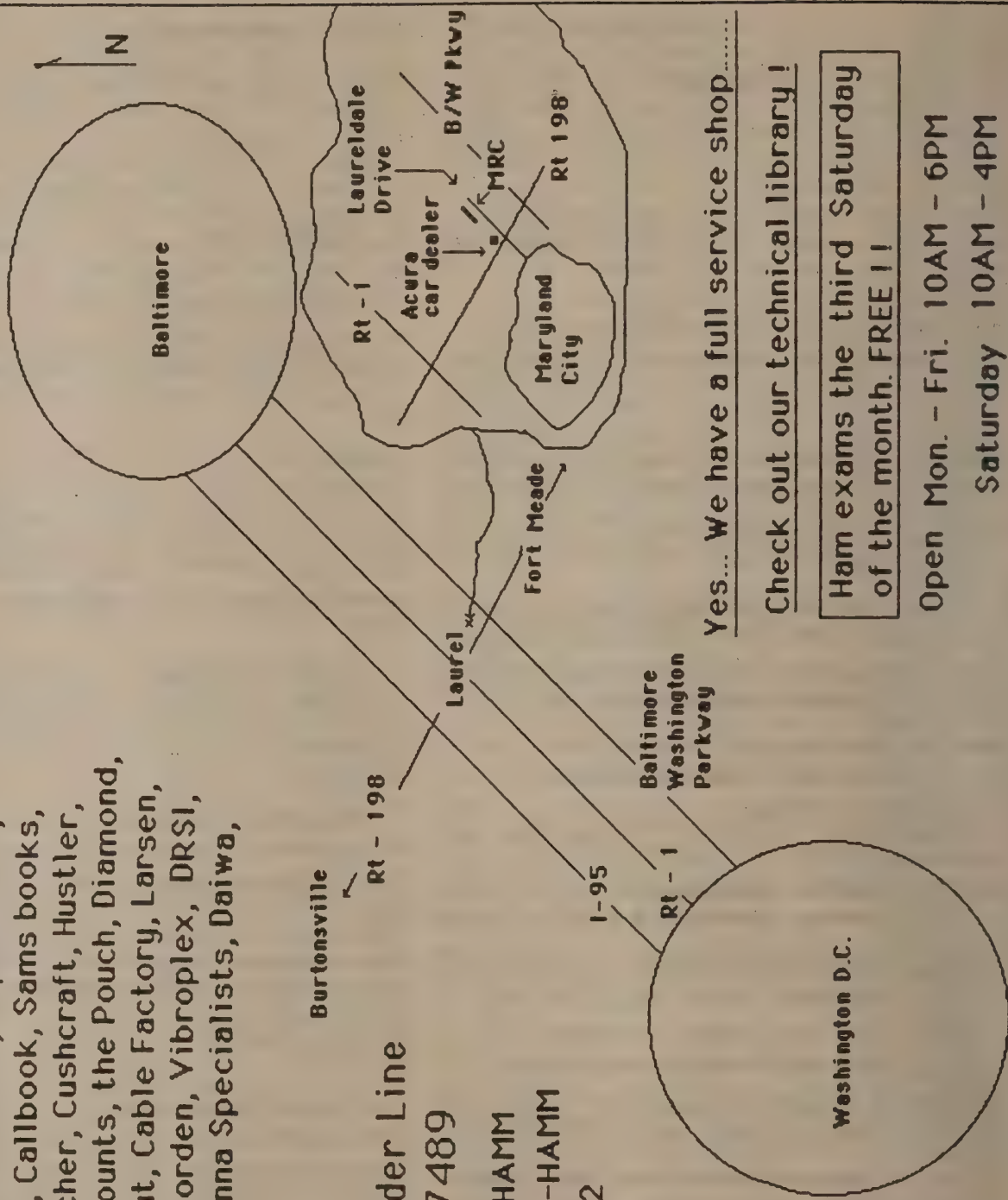
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Volunteer Examiner Cooperative

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3513 Old Post Road, Fairfax, VA 22030
(703) 691-0078

SCHEDULE OF EXAMINATIONS
1992

NOTICE: If you presently have a Technician class license which was acquired prior to March 21 1987, keep a copy of this license available when you decide to upgrade to General class. It will be your responsibility to prove you are grandfathered for Element 3B (General Theory).

EXAMS

- Jan 4 Chesapeake DX Assn. (Chesapeake, VA) (ARRL VEC)
Contact: Bill Verebely, KC4YX (804) 424-4764
- Jan 11 Anne Arundel Radio Club (LARC VEC) Pre-registration requested
Contact: Nancy Alley, NT3Z (301) 761-7115 or Bob Israel, WC3I 262-5083
- George Washington U/Department of State (Washington, D.C.) (ARRL VEC Walk-in)
Contact: Derrill Rohlf, W3WOX (301) 423-0179
- Mount Vernon ARC (Alexandria, VA) (Laurel VEC) Walk-in
Contact: Frank Mackey, N4GUS (703) 455-1510
- Jan 12 Bedford ARC (Bedford, VA) (ARRL VEC) Walk-in
Contact: August Meidling (703) 297-5515
- Jan 18 Laurel ARC (Laurel, MD) (Laurel VEC) Pre-registration desirable
Contact: John Creel, WB3GXW (301) 572-5124 after 6 p.m.
- Jan 31 Stafford Area Repeater Assn. (Stafford, VA) (W5YI VEC) Walk-in
Contact: David Boyd, K9MX (703) 659-6241
- Feb 8 Anne Arundel Radio Club (LARC VEC) Pre-registration requested
Contact: Nancy Alley, NT3Z (301) 761-7115 or Bob Israel, WC3I 262-5083
- Mt. Vernon ARC (Alexandria, VA) (Laurel VEC) Walk-in
Contact: Frank Mackey, N4GUS (703) 455-1510
- Feb 15 Laurel ARC (Laurel, MD) (Laurel VEC) Pre-registration desirable
Contact: John Creel, WB3GXW (301) 572-5124 after 6 p.m.
- Hampton Roads Radio Assn. (Hampton, VA) (W5YI VEC)
Contact: Bill Runyon, N4BDH (804) 487-8611
- Feb 22 Vienna Wireless Society (Vienna, VA) (ARRL VEC) Walk-in
Contact: Ron Natalie, WO2L (703) 620-1727
- Mar 7 Anne Arundel Radio Club (LARC VEC) Pre-registration requested
Contact: Nancy Alley, NT3Z (301) 761-7115 or Bob Israel, WC3I 262-5083

(Continued on next page)

This schedule of examinations appears each month in Auto-Call Magazine
Sponsored by the Foundation for Amateur Radio

Volunteer Examiner Cooperative - Continued

- Mar 7** South Peninsula ARC (ARRL VEC)
Contact: Ed Brummer, W4RTZ (804) 898-8031
- Mar 21** Laurel ARC (Laurel, MD) (Laurel VEC) Pre-registration desirable
Contact: John Creel, WB3GXW (301) 572-5124 after 6 p.m.
- Apr 4** Williamsburg Area ARC (Williamsburg, VA) (ARRL VEC) Walk-in
Contact: Andrew Swanson, WJ4X (804) 253-2811
- Apr 11** Anne Arundel Radio Club (LARC VEC) Pre-registration requested
Contact: Nancy Alley, NT3Z (301) 761-7115 or Bob Israel, WC3I 262-5083
Mount Vernon ARC (Alexandria, VA) (Laurel VEC) Walk-in
Contact: Frank Mackey, N4GUS (703) 455-1510
- Apr 18** Laurel ARC (Laurel, MD) (Laurel VEC) Pre-registration desirable
Contact: John Creel, WB3GXW (301) 572-5124 after 6 p.m.
- May 2** Portsmouth ARC (Portsmouth, VA) (ARRL VEC)
Contact: Art Thiemens, AA4AT (804) 484-2857
- May 9** Anne Arundel Radio Club (LARC VEC) Pre-registration requested
Contact: Nancy Alley, NT3Z (301) 761-7115 or Bob Israel, WC3I 262-5083
Herndon Repeater Group (Herndon, VA) (ARRL VEC) Walk-in
Contact: Terry Berman (703) 435-1117
Mount Vernon ARC (Alexandria, VA) (Laurel VEC) Walk-in
Contact: Frank Mackey, N4GUS (703) 455-1510
- May 16** Laurel ARC (Laurel, MD) (Laurel VEC) Pre-registration desirable
Contact: John Creel, WB3GXW (301) 572-5124 after 6 p.m.
- May 20** Hampton Roads Radio Assn. (Hampton, VA) (W5YI VEC)
Contact: Bill Runyon, N4BDH (804) 487-8611
- Jun 6** Virginia Mountain ARC (Clifton Forge, VA) (ARRL VEC) Walk-in
Contact: Gary Bostic (703) 747-3193
- Jun 13** Anne Arundel Radio Club (LARC VEC) Pre-registration requested
Contact: Nancy Alley, NT3Z (301) 761-7115 or Bob Israel, WC3I 262-5083
Mount Vernon ARC (Alexandria, VA) (Laurel VEC) Walk-in
Contact: Frank Mackey, N4GUS (703) 455-1510
Chesapeake DX Assn. (Chesapeake, VA) (ARRL VEC)
Contact: Bill Verebely, KC4YX (804) 424-4764

NOTE: All examinations require that you submit:
Copy of your current Amateur Radio license (bring original)
Completed FCC Form 610.
Check for appropriate examination fee.
Fees of individual VEC may vary.
ARRL VEC Exam fee is \$5.40
W5YI VEC Exam fee is \$5.40
Laurel VEC Exams, all tests are free.
Mountain VEC Exams, all tests are free

Public Service Report

Hank Black - N3ESR

(301) 340-8595

Material for the PUBLIC SERVICE REPORT can be left to N3ESR on the WA3ZNW packet bulletin board on 145.090 MHz, called by telephone, or mailed electronically by modem on arrangements, or mailed to Public Service Report, 105 North Van Buren St., Rockville, MD 20850-1860. Deadline for receipt of material is the third of the month.

Deadline for receipt of material is the third of the month.

MARINES USE A FEW GOOD HAMS TO HANDLE COMMUNICATIONS

More than 85 Amateur Radio operators cooperated with the United States Marine Corps and other military personnel to manage communications at the 16th Annual Marine Corps Marathon on November 3, 1991 in Washington, D.C. The event has been sponsored by the U.S. Marine Corps since 1975.

The hams were members of the Pentagon Amateur Radio Club (ARC), the Vienna Wireless Society, the Mount Vernon ARC, Southern Maryland ARC, Montgomery ARC, Montgomery Auxiliary Communications Service (MACS) and other Amateur Radio organizations in Virginia, Maryland and the District of Columbia.

Volunteer hams monitored the health and safety of the 13,000 runners and hundreds of thousands of spectators as the race progressed through Virginia and the streets of Washington, D.C. They also coordinated medical assistance for the runners from a base station at the finish line near the Iwo Jima monument in Arlington, Virginia. Additional hams with hand-held transceivers were stationed at aid stations and certain mile intervals along the 26-mile course.

"Our chief responsibility was to ensure the safety of runners and spectators at all times," said Maj. Dick Lum, USAF, volunteer coordinator of Amateur Radio activities for the event. "Luckily, only a few runners required significant medical assistance on the course this year, and hams were there to help the Marines make certain they got it quickly. We think our ability to staff this complex event complements the Marine Corps exceptional logistics ability very well."

Lum said that hams from MACS also monitored the race with an Amateur television (ATV) system along the course. A packet radio network linked ham radio operators using computers with personnel at five area hospitals with the medical dispatch and transportation nets as well as the Marine medical officer-in-charge. Hams also used their equipment to facilitate communications among the various military, police and emergency services located in the federal, state and local jurisdictions. [See the next Auto-Call for the Honor Roll of hams who participated. -Ed.]

PACKET OPERATION COMES TO WASHINGTON FORECAST OFFICE

Arrangements have been made to relay severe weather reports by packet radio to the National Weather Service Forecast Office in Sterling, Virginia.

Dan Gropper, KC4OCG, SKYWARN Net Manager, has placed his packet mailbox station KC4OCG on the air 24 hours a day on 441.000 MHz in order to receive incoming severe weather reports from area Amateurs using the DCA6 node or by going direct. When DCA6 is unavailable, packet station KC4OCG will be on 145.03 MHz accessible thru FFX (located atop Fairfax Hospital) or direct. SKYWARN reports should be left as messages to "ALL" and kept concise as to keep connect times short as possible. THESE PROCEDURES MOST PROBABLY WILL CHANGE AS THE BUGS ARE WORKED OUT OF THE PROCESS!

(Continued)

Public Service Report - Continue

When WINTER STORM WARNINGS are in effect, plans are to forward the information from the KC4OCG packet station by phone or FAX to the NWS on an hourly basis. Additionally, when the NWS activates the SKYWARN Amateur voice net, it is planned to simultaneously run a SKYWARN packet radio net on the DCCONV (DCA converse node), channel nine (9). The DCCONV is accessed by connecting to any of the DCA nodes and then connecting to DCCONV.

The weather service would like to have the following information via packet:

1. Name, Telephone Number & Skywarn ID (if available);
2. Location, Time and Date of Report;
3. Severe Weather Report.

A sample message would look like the following:

1. Dan Gropper, (703) 281-2358, FXC-01
2. Vienna, VA., between Oakton and Vienna; 3:08 PM 11/24/91
3. Snowing for past 3 hours, 5 inches measured Winds gusting to 35 est; Heavy Drifting and Poor Visibility, Streets not plowed and are barely passable.

Please leave messages, comments and the like to Dan on his BBS. Hams are encouraged to check in with "test" weather reports anytime using the words "TEST MESSAGE" in the text. Updated procedures will be posted on local "MDC" BBS's and in Auto-Call.

The comments and suggestions of the many Amateurs who have offered their assistance in putting together the above procedures are appreciated. Thanks for everyone's support of the SKYWARN program!

- Submitted by Dan Gropper, KC4OCG, SKYWARN Net Manager.

WINTER SKYWARN WEATHER REPORT CRITERIA

WINTER SKYWARN ACTIVITIES - Old Man (Person!) Winter cannot be far behind so here is the criteria for SKYWARN winter severe weather reports:

1. SNOWFALL IN EXCESS OF 4 INCHES
2. SEVERE ICING ON TREES, STREETS OR POWER LINES
3. SLEET OR FREEZING RAIN
4. WIND IN EXCESS OF 30 MILES PER HOUR
5. DOWNED TREES OR POWER LINES

As always, the SKYWARN phone nets primarily will be on the 147.300 MHz repeater (up 600 KHz). Announcements that SKYWARN has been activated will be made on NOAA Weather Radio (162.55 MHz and 162.475 MHz) and on the 147.300+ (WA4TSC) and 146.91- (W4XG-NVFM) repeaters.

SKYWARN TRAINING SCHEDULE

There is no charge for the SKYWARN training classes. Space remains available at the time this information was submitted to Auto-Call. Pre-registration is required. For registration and further information call the National Weather Service at (703) 260-0209.

Jan. 18, 1992, Saturday, 10 a.m. to noon, Winter Storm Class,
Washington Weather Service Forecast Office Sterling, VA.

Jan. 23, 1992, Thursday, 7 p.m. to 10 p.m., Basic Spotter Training Class, Washington
Weather Service Forecast Office Sterling, VA.

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T-MARC

The Middle Atlantic FM and Repeater Council

Mailing Address: 7623 Old Washington Road, Woodbine, Maryland 21797

T-MARC Coordinations & ARRL Directory Update

DEADLINE FOR UPDATES TO THE 1992 EDITION OF ARRL REPEATER DIRECTORY MUST BE SUBMITTED TO W3DTN BY DEC. 20, 1991. THERE SHALL BE NO GRACE PERIOD!

The original sponsor of 224.82 MHz and 444.60 MHz repeaters abandoned sponsorship. T-MARC coordinated these frequencies to N4YET as sponsor for operation in downtown Harrisonburg, VA. The three Kent Island ARC repeaters (145.35, 224.28, and 443.85 MHz) were re-coordinated to new site on Kent Island.

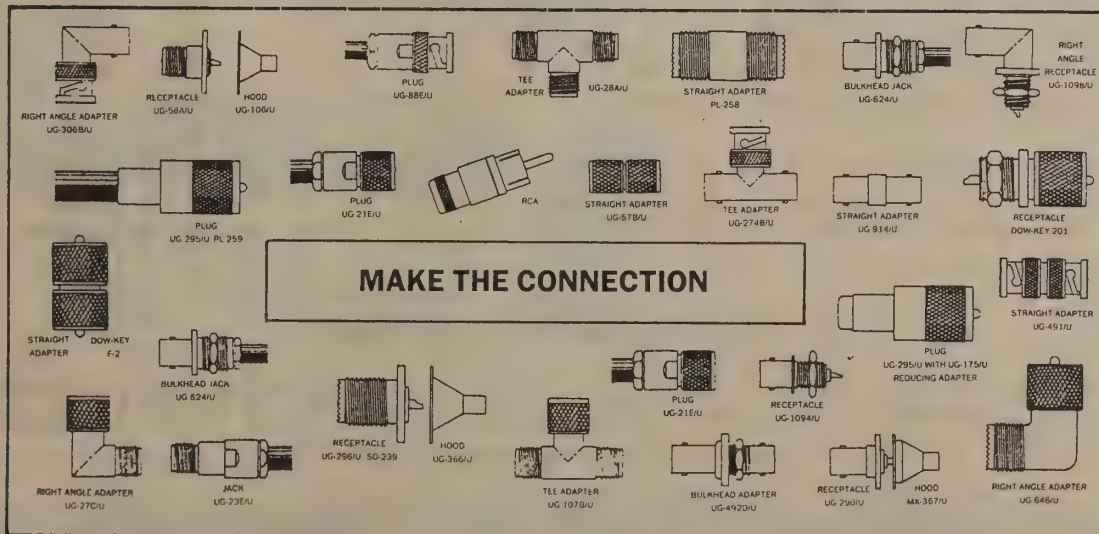
The Kent Amateur Radio Society 147.375 MHz repeater in Chestertown, MD was re-coordinated to new improved location and coordinated a new 449.175 MHz repeater in Chestertown, MD (new since Oct. 1 T-MARC repeater directory).

Baltimore Amateur Radio Clubs's 146.67 MHz repeater transmit site has been re-coordinated from an old location at Randalstown to a new site on the north side of Baltimore.

The New Carrollton ARC repeater which has been operating on the builder's channel for several months has been re-coordinated on new frequency of 145.23 MHz in Lanham, MD.

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Training Classes

Robert Armstrong, WA4SQL

44 South French Street; Alexandria, VA 22304

Phone (703) 751-2294

Novice and Technician Training Classes - Including no-code Tech. Glen Burnie, MD, Starting 12 January. Sponsored by Maryland Mobileers ARC. Classes will be held every Sunday, 1300 to 1530, at the American Red Cross, 30 Greenway S.W., Glen Burnie, MD. For further information and registration call John Baugus at (301) 551-3161 or John Kohl @ WB3V.MD.USA **Upgrade Classes following** if there is sufficient interest.

Novice and Technician Training Class, California, MD, Starting January 21. Sponsored by Southern Patuxent Amateur Radio Club. The 10 weeks class will meet from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. every Tuesday in the Latterday Saints Church meeting room on Rolling Road (Behind K-Mart). For more information call Dwayne Kincaid at (410) 586-2177.

General through Extra Training Classes, Alexandria, VA, Starting January 27. Upgrade license course sponsored by Mount Vernon ARC and Alexandria ARC. High speed CW (20 wpm) will be emphasized. Classes will be held on Monday evenings at 7:30 p.m. starting January 27 and will run for approximately 17 weeks. There is no charge for the class, but students will be expected to supply their own ARRL License Manual. For further information and location of class, contact John Forrest - WZ4A (703) 971-3905.

Novice through upgrades, Sterling Park, Starting in the spring. Dates and times will be dependent upon need and availability, and coordination within the local area. If interested call Mark Johnson - WS3N (703) 430-3804.

General Class code and theory course, Herndon, VA. Starting in the spring if there is sufficient interest. For information call Michael Rosati - N4FXP (703) 481-8380

Novice and Technician Training Classes, Herndon, VA. Starting September 12, 1992. Sponsored by the Herndon Repeater Group. Class will be limited to 35 people. For information Contact Mike Weber - WB8RDN at (703) 450-2304 between 7:00 and 9:00 p.m.

Novice Training Classes, Baltimore, MD. Sponsored by BRATS. Classes are being held on an on-going basis every Friday evening at American Red Cross; 4700 Mt. Hope Drive, Baltimore (near Reisterstown Road Plaza Metro Station). Class is free; Materials (which you can keep) consist of a book and tape and cost \$19.90. For registration or information, contact Al Dixon - N3HOE (301) 833-5735.

Novice and Upgrade Classes, Lexington Park, MD. Sponsored by St. Mary's County Amateur Radio Assn. For further information call (301) 862-2214.

Novice Training Classes, N.W. Washington, DC. Sponsored by MADRAS. For more information contact Larry Zeichek - N3GKZ (301) 984-6112.

VIRGINIA TRAFFIC TRAINING NET - 3685 kHz 6:30 p.m. daily. 5 - 8 wpm.

SLOW CODE PRACTICE NET, 28.250 MHz 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. Wednesdays. Sponsored by Woodbridge Wireless, Inc.

*Please keep Auto-Call advised of Training Classes
See next page for additional information*

Training GENERAL INFORMATION

Alexandria Radio Club	John Forrest - WZ4A (703) 971-2905
Anne Arundel	Tony Young - WA3YLO (301) 262-1917
Arlington ARC	Fred Bardsley - WD4DHW (703) 533-0372
Baltimore ARC	Phone 1-800-HAM FEST - VB
BRATS	Al Dixon - N3HOE (301) 833-5735
Chaverim, Inc.	Bob Teitel - W3IDT (301) 654-3484
Fauquier ARC	Bill Mills - KC5PF (703) 937-4090 (H), 818-3955 (O)
Frederick ARC	Steve Bauman - W3FOA (301) 662-4552
Herndon Repeater Group	Michael Weber - WB8RDN (703) 450-2304
Laurel ARC	Pud Reaver - W3DQI (301) 498-6293
MADRAS	Larry Ziecheck - N3GKZ (301) 984-6112
Maryland Mobileers	John Baugus (301) 551-3161
Montgomery ARC	Ken Nichols - KA3KGL (301) 977-5405
Mount Vernon ARC	John Forrest - WZ4A (703) 971-3905
NASA/Goddard ARC	Vikki Gigante -KA3PVS (301) 249-2609
Ole Virginia Hams	John (703) 791-5995
Pentagon ARC	David Boyd - K9MX (202) 697-0630
Rock Creek ARA	Walt Ramsey - AK3B (301) 949-3954
St. Mary's County ARA	Call (301) 862-2214
Shenandoah Valley ARC	Guy Black - W4PSJ (703) 722-4952
Southern Maryland ARC	Vic Curtis - WA3YUV (301) 888-1388
Southern Patuxent ARC	Dwayne Kincaid - WD8OYG (301) 586-2177
Sterling Park	Mark Johnson - WS3N (703) 430-3804
Tri County ARC	Al Sines - WA3QGA, Box 710, College Park 20740
Vienna Wireless	Paul Wilkins - AB4CY (703) 560-2779
Woodbridge Wireless	Loyd Davis - K8EI (703) 360-0248

ARES/RACES Leadership - Continued from page 21

Blue Ridge District #15

DEC Tom Bradshaw, WD4RIE (703) 292-2972
 Augusta County EC Doug Edwards, KA4NWK (703) 942-3787
 Rockbridge County EC Dan Welsh, KI4ZR (703) 463-7800
 Rockingham County EC Zane ("Rusty") Bowman, N4YET (703) 833-5565

Official Emergency Stations in Virginia Districts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, & 15

Northern Shenandoah District #1 . Rick Fravel, N4FNT
 National Capital District #2 Dick Lum, NH6E
 Geri Sweeney, N4GHI
 Northern Piedmont District #3 ... (Vacant)
 Upper Rappahannock District #4 .. David ("Spike") Boyd, K9MX
 Jim Brodhead, KA4ERP
 Rappahannock District #5 (Vacant)
 Virginia Capital District #6

..... Earl Bishop, N4EXQ
 Joyce Dolby, WB4PNY
 Ralph Fetty, N4EHJ
 Gil Frey, N4JST
 Blue Ridge District #15 John Scheufel, WA4DTE

The above information is believed to be accurate through 12/08/91
 Please advise Hank Black - N3ESR of any changes. Phone (301) 340-8595

ARES/RACES Leadership for Virginia

Virginia Section EC &

Virginia RACES Coordinator Steven P. Czaikowski, WB4ZTR (703) 869-3674
 Virginia Deputy RACES Coordinator Henry Hassell, K4LMY (804) 561-3060
 Virginia RACES EOC Radio Officer Earl Bishop, N4EXQ (804) 270-7564

Northern Shenandoah District #1

DEC John Anastas, KJ4EK (703) 667-6046
 Clarke County EC (Vacant)
 Frederick County EC Bob Cooley, N4VJK (703) 662-5312
 Page County EC George McCulloch, WA3WIP (703) 743-3532
 Shenandoah County EC (Vacant)
 Warren County EC Mark Kesner, KC4GIA (703) 635-8667
 Winchester City EC (Vacant)

National Capital District #2

DEC Bob Lewis, N4SCK, (703) 830-3495
 Alexandria EC Rich Adamy, A4GFY (703) 931-2917
 Arlington EC Rick Bunn, N4ASX (703) 685-7765
 Fairfax EC Ed Ober, KC4EFJ (703) 591-0422
 Fauquier County EC Bob Taylor, KC4CVG (703) 439-2786
 Loudoun County EC Bill Roemer, K3CUU (703) 554-2523
 Military District of Wash. Dick Lum, NH6E (703) 938-9215
 Prince William County EC Harry Vorhauer, W4PVA (703) 368-6050
 SKYWARN Net Manager Dan Gropper, KC4OCG (703) 281-2358

Northern Piedmont District #3

DEC Morris Jones, NM4R (804) 293-5203
 Greene, Albemarle County EC Hein Hvatum, N4FWA (804) 977-4438
 Fluvanna, Louisa County EC Ed Lang, KC4YLY (804) 295-5318

Upper Rappahannock District #4

DEC Jim Brodhead, KA4ERP (703) 972-2566
 Culpeper County EC Belmont Wroman, WD4OKD (703) 399-1210
 Madison County EC Tony Deivert, W4MFX (703) 948-6327
 Orange, Rappahannock Co. EC Malcolm Gray, KK4GZ (703) 854-4342
 Spotsylvania County EC Jim Brodhead, KA4ERP (703) 972-2566
 Stafford, Caroline, King George EC John Cavanagh, KB4XF (703) 373-7076

Rappahannock District #5

DEC Verlan Hall, AA4HQ (804) 776-9353
 Lancaster County EC Bill Pheris, KK4YR (804) 438-5736
 Middlesex County EC Verlan Hall, AA4HQ (804) 776-9353
 Northumberland County EC Bill Morhard, KA4DEO (804) 580-5467

Virginia Capital District #6 are:

DEC VACANT - (Contact WB4ZTR if interested)
 Chesterfield County EC Joe Gagliano, KJ4RG (804) 748-6985
 City of Richmond EC Bill Kidd, KA4UND (804) 282-1207
 Dinwiddie County EC (VACANT)
 Goochland County EC Glenn Swanson, KB1GW (804) 556-3357
 Hanover County EC (VACANT)
 Henrico County EC Dennis Wyman, KB4DCE (804) 737-8386
 Prince George County EC Doug Edwards, N4KDE (804) 541-3528
 King & Queen County EC (VACANT)
 King William County EC (VACANT)
 New Kent County EC Ray Campbell, WA4OVW (804) 566-0681
 Powhatan County EC (VACANT)
 Charles City County EC Gil Frey, N4JST (804) 829-2240
 SKYWARN Net Manager Billy Walton, KC4ETD (804) 795-2393

(Continued on page 20)

RICHMOND FROSTFEST XV

Winter Amateur Radio Hamfest

SUNDAY, JANUARY 19, 1992

The Showplace, 3000 Mechanicsville Turnpike, Richmond, Virginia



Hours: 8:30 A.M.-3:30 P.M.

An ARRL Approved Event



Presented By The Richmond Amateur Telecommunications Society

*** LOTS OF FREE PARKING * LICENSE EXAMS * TALK-IN ON 146.88 & 145.43 ***

GENERAL ADMISSION TICKETS: \$5.00

GENERAL TABLE SPACES (8' Table included): \$10.00

COMMERCIAL SPACES (8' Table): \$30.00 First Space, \$25.00 Each Additional

GENERAL INFORMATION

DEADLINE FOR ALL RESERVED SPACES AND ADVANCE TICKET SALES IS DECEMBER 30, 1991. No space reservations or advance tickets after that date. Any unsold spaces will be available on the day of the show. All monies for advance tickets and reserved spaces must be received no later than January 7, 1992.

AMATEUR RADIO EXAMS GIVEN ON SATURDAY, JANUARY 18, AT 7:00 p.m. Both ARRL and W5YI exam teams will be on hand. Registration is recommended as there will only a limited number of walk-ins. For more exam info, contact Phil Giella at (804)561-3020, or Bill Mason at (804)745-5822.

LOTS OF PRIZES! Exhibitor, hourly, and major door prizes. Hourly door prizes drawn starting at 9 a.m. Major prizes drawn at 3:30 p.m. You do not have to be present to win the exhibitor or major prize drawings.

SAME LOCATION AS LAST YEAR! 65,000 sq. ft. building. Well lighted and heated. Entire show inside, no outside tailgating. Armed security at all times. Building available for set-up from 12:00 noon until 8:00 p.m. on Saturday, January 19. Drive-in available on Saturday for unloading. Will re-open at 6:00 a.m. Sunday for set-up. Drive-in for unloading is not available on Sunday morning.

COMMERCIAL AND FLEA MARKETS TABLE AREAS! Electrical power available for all table areas. Commercial booth space prices include power. Flea market exhibitors needing power are required to pay a \$5.00 electrical fee. Fee gives flea market exhibitor access to one 120 volt outlet.

FIRST-RATE TALK-IN SERVICE! Talk-in provided Sunday morning on the 146.88 and 145.43 repeaters.

TICKETS AND RESERVATIONS: Mark Huff, WA4DHY, (804)747-0227 Evenings 7 PM - 10 PM (Mon. - Thurs.)
OTHER INFORMATION: Bill Mason, AB3P, Frostfest Chairman, (804)745-5822

DX DX DX

John Kanode, N4MM

DXCC FIELD REPRESENTATIVES

The first group of DXCC Field Representatives has been approved and are now able to start checking QSLs for initial applications for DXCC. There are now 110 appointed in the US.

So far, I have appointed 14 in the Roanoke Division, all in Virginia. They are listed below. Anyone interested in this program can send me a SASE for the info and a form. My address is on page 8 of each QST Magazine or on the back inside cover of AUTO-CALL.

Ralph King, K1KOB
3409 Mornington Drive
Chesapeake, VA 23321

Karl H. Oyster, Jr., NQ1W
524 Vicksdell Cres.
Chesapeake, VA 23320

M. David Gaskins, AA4AV
228 Unser Drive
Chesapeake, VA 23320

John N. Kirkham, KC4B
10920 Byrd Drive
Fairfax, VA 22030

Emmett Stine, KD4OS
1269 Parkside Place
Virginia Beach, VA 23454

Fran Sledge, N4CRU
3004 Oakley Hall Road
Portsmouth, VA 23702

Nap Perry, W4DHZ
9317 Marlow Avenue
Norfolk, VA 23503

Art Westmont, W4EEU
4717 Little John Road
Virginia Beach, VA 23455

Grover Brewer, W4FPW
1359 Eagle Avenue
Norfolk, VA 23518

Howell G. Gwaltney, W4IF
209 Pennington
Portsmouth, VA 23701

Charlie Sledge, W4JVU
3004 Oakley Hall Road
Portsmouth, VA 23703

Pradyumna Rana, WB4NFO
29 East Church Street
Alexandria, VA 22301

James A. Sladek, WB4UBD
215 Delaney Drive
Suffolk, VA 23434

Richard T. Williams, WE6H
7902 Viola Street
Springfield, VA 22152

NOTE: Field Checking of
QSL's for original DXCC
available at WINTERFEST™

DX CONTESTS FOR JANUARY

January 18-19	HA DX Contest
January 24-26	CQ WW 160 Meter DX Contest CW
January 25-26	REF French Contest CW
January 25-26	UBA Contest CW

UPCOMING DXPEDITIONS

Navassa KP1	January 17-23
Vietnam 3W3	January (late)
Christmas I. VK9X	February 11-24

QSLs BEING RECEIVED

ZA1A QSLs are now being received by Amateurs in the local area. Also ZA1HA and ZA1QA QSLs are being received. Cards from ZA1QA and ZA1HA are NOT being accepted for DXCC at the present time. ZA1A QSLs are being accepted for DXCC credit at this time.

YA0RR QSLs have been received by a few Amateurs in the area. These QSLs are coming out very slowly.

The latest rumor is that XY0RR cards will start hitting the mails before the end of December. With the ever changing situation in the USSR, (or whatever is left of it) who knows when these cards will arrive. Documentation is still pending on this operation. The word is that this documentation is on the way and should be received at ARRL soon.

Cards from the recent C21NI, T30DS, VS6/N200, V8500 DXpeditions are being received.

❖ ❖ ❖

Guest Editorial

An Alternate Plan You Can Live With

By Jeff Goldman

In his article, "A Plan You Can Live With" on page 28 of the December, 1991 issue of *Auto-Call*, Tony Young made many good points. I would like to offer some other alternatives to the suggested plans for disposing of the specialized equipment, tools, and associated accessories of deceased Amateurs.

Each of the ham-related businesses in the Washington area can provide some form of assistance in liquidating the Amateur's estate. Some will sell major equipment (transceivers, amplifiers, power supplies, etc.) for the ham's spouse (or the heir or the executor of the estate.) When the equipment is sold the proceeds (less a consignment fee) will be paid to the estate. The length of time this process takes depends on when the equipment finally gets sold. It can take one week to six months.

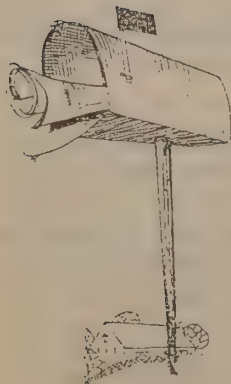
I can not comment specifically on the services offered by the other stores in the area but I would like to list some of the services we can offer at G & G Electronics.

1. We can help to evaluate the Amateur equipment, tools, etc.
This appraisal may be required for tax purposes.
2. We will sell items on consignment, as mentioned above.
3. We will buy, and pay for immediately (as opposed to waiting for a consignment sale), any or all of the ham items on hand - not just the major items, but everything from the old World War II surplus transmitter to the antenna and tower.

Of course we will buy the major items, but we are also interested in technical books, magazines, such as QST, and the miscellaneous collection of parts that every ham acquires. (Many of the clubs do not wish to deal with these small items.) We will remove and dispose of the non-usable ham related items - such as salvaged TV sets or incomplete homebrew projects. We can provide any level of help necessary to assist the Amateur's family, from just giving them needed information to a complete liquidation service.

The ham-related businesses in the area should be considered as an available alternative when deciding upon a plan for the disposition of your ham equipment.

Jeff Goldman - K3DUA
Owner, G&G Electronics



Address Changes

If you are moving, or if your mailing address is being changed even for a brief vacation period, please let us know well in advance. If you are one of the Snow Birds who go south for the winter and north for the summer, be sure to keep us advised. We will be glad to make the temporary change. Third class mail is not forwarded by the Post Office.

Please keep *Auto-Call* advised of address changes.

Elmer's Corner

By Scott Schaefer - WR4S

This column will be devoted to guiding new Amateurs through some of the common questions and problems encountered by all of us in our hamming endeavors. Many of the questions that come up regard the virtual plethora of equipment that is available on the market. I plan to give a brief synopsis on what's out there and what are the best buys for a new Amateur. I will also try to help out on problems pertaining to setting up a station. Send us your questions and we will try to provide the answers. Any input that might be helpful to newcomers will also be most welcome.

Write or phone me at 107 Melody Lane S.E., Vienna, VA 22180 (703) 255-7264

Last month I was flapping my jaws about interference and mentioned a few things about grounding your station. If you are confident in your ground situation, the next step I take is to go to the "horse's mouth" by eliminating all peripheral equipment that is between the transmitter and the antenna, leaving an unbroken run of coax from rig to aerial. All "extras" in the line are suspect, including tuners, SWR meters, low pass filters, barrel connectors, lightning suppressors, and coax jumpers.

Once you have your station set up this way, run some tests to try and determine if the interference problem has changed. If the problem has improved, then check each "extra" individually. First take a coax jumper and a barrel connector, connect one end of the jumper to the coax leading to the antenna and run your test again. If all checks out, remove the barrel connector and start substituting your "extras" one at a time and, through the process of elimination, the faulty piece should be identified.

It is a little more difficult to isolate the problem if, during the initial test, the problem stayed the same or got worse. If you have a solid state rig, the coax or antenna are more likely the problem than the radio. To test the coax, borrow or build a dummy load and substitute it in place of the antenna. By checking the SWR, a relative indication of the integrity of the coax can be established. If a reasonable reading (less than 1.5 to 1) is not obtained, cut about 3 feet off the antenna end of the coax, solder a new connector on and test again. Do the same to the other end if no improvement is noticed (cut the coax only a few inches this time) and check things out.

If things remain the same, it's time to open up the pocketbook and invest in some high quality coaxial cable. Don't be a cheapskate when it comes to your coax. After spending good money on the rest of your station, don't try to save a few bucks by using inferior coax.

There are many opinions about coax and many new hams are easily confused by the wide variety of brands and model numbers, but there are some types and brands that are better than others for specific applications. It has been my experience that Belden coax consistently has been the best in quality of construction and electrical integrity. By checking the ads in your favorite ham magazine, you can purchase it reasonably by mail order from various vendors. The type to use will depend on different factors such as power level, frequency, length of the run, as well as some other considerations.

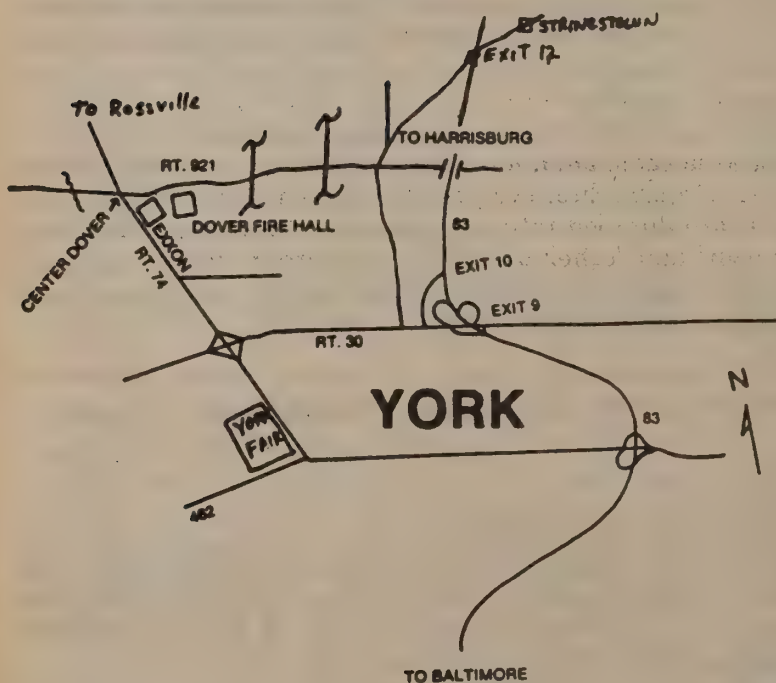
For some reason, the standard impedance for coax in the U.S. has traditionally been 50 ohms where in Europe the standard is 75 ohms. I'm not quite sure why. Logically, assuming you are feeding a flat top dipole, the 75 ohm line is a much closer match, but since the solid state rigs of today are nominally looking for 50 ohm load, use 50 ohm coax; the slight amount of reactance that appears will not hurt anything. RG-58u coax is acceptable for moderate power levels (running "barefoot") and a relatively short coax run (under 100 feet). Mini-8 or RG8X coax is a better alternative and does exhibit lower "loss" than the former.

More on coax next month.



5th Annual YORK SPRINGFEST AMATEUR RADIO and COMPUTER SHOW

March 1, 1992
DOVER FIREHALL, DOVER, PA



Rain or Shine
Tailgating \$2.00 Per Space
Two Floors Indoors
Kitchen Operated by:
DOVER FIRE COMPANY
Breakfast Available
No Smoking in Building
8:00 a.m. General Admissions
VE Exams
Local Repeater 146.37/.97
Donation \$4.00
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717 - 359-7610

PRE-REGISTRATION has priority
2 forms ID one with PHOTO
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FEE CHARGED (cash Preferred)

Mail to:
YORK SPRINGFEST
P.O. BOX 316
NEW FREEDOM, PA 17349-0316
For Info Call (301) 239-3878

SRAM-037 (Soviet Radio Amateur Movement)

Edited by Dexter Anderson, W4KM

[Summary translations from the June 1991 issue of the monthly magazine **RADIO** and the weekly newspaper **SOVETSKIY PATRIOT** ("SP"). Most amateur news in "SP" appears in the columns "**NLD**" (**Na lyubitel'skikh diapazonakh** - On the Amateur Bands), appearing in every issue, and "**EFIR**" (**AIRWAVES**) (literally "ETHER"), appearing monthly. Both columns are edited by Boris Grigor'yevich Stepanov, UW3AX. Text in square brackets and in footnotes is by translator.]

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

"HAM DOESN'T MEAN CAD¹," from P. Smirnova, RW9YL

At the collective station where I started out in amateur radio, they told us that shortwavers were the most polite people in the world. But on 160m, men would make rude remarks to a girl who in their view stayed on the air too long.

I now teach in a school YL club (UZ9YYL). It's fairly easy to convey the romance of short wave, but more difficult to help the students stay on the air after meeting some of these "most polite people" -- Soviet shortwavers.

Why is it that no foreign operator has even once answered me with a rude remark even when I made a mistake through lack of experience, whereas with Soviet shortwavers the situation is often completely different?

"AN OBLAST' QSL BUREAU IS NEEDED!" from V. Chaplygin, UA3DAF

In exchanging QSL cards between Moscow-area radio amateurs, it's practically impossible to find anything in the piles of cards scattered around. In one club, everything is fine as far as "their own" QSL cards are concerned, but "other people's" are dumped into a metal safe. In another club, the procedure is more democratic: Both "their own" and "other people's" cards are in a common pile. How can we explain to beginning SWLs why they must first travel 160 km to Moscow, then to half a dozen towns in the Moscow area (and these are just the official QSL bureaus)?

An Oblast' QSL bureau would simplify things considerably. Space can be found in Podol'sk, where a huge building has been built to meet DOSAAF's needs. Each person would look for his cards in his local or Oblast' QSL bureau.

DIPLOMAS [CERTIFICATES]

The new diploma "Jewish Autonomous Oblast"² requires five contacts since January 1990 with radio amateurs in Birobidzhan or elsewhere in the Oblast' using any mode. Repeat QSOs on different bands count. Log extracts should be sent to: Diploma Commission, P. O. Box 54, 682200 BIROBIDZHAN. SWLs may receive the diploma under analogous conditions.

¹This is a bilingual play on words. In Russian, KHAM means cad or boor and is close in pronunciation to the English expression HAM which is familiar to many Soviet readers.

²Yevreyskaya avtonomnaya oblast', or YeAO (Oblasts No. 111, embedded RSFSR callsign identifier OD). According to a U.S. reference, the Jewish Autonomous Oblast' was established in 1934 in the Soviet Far East but attracted few Jews; of a population of 165,000, no more than 30,000 were thought to be Jews.

(Continued)

SRAM-037 - Continued

AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

The "Radio-TLUM" [radiotovarishchestvo lyubiteley ukrainskogo yazyka - Radio Society of Lovers of the Ukrainian Language³] has been founded in Vinnitsa. Its basic purpose is to publicize the literary Ukrainian language and to encourage its use on the air.

Those wishing to join "Radio-TLUM" must earn at least 500 points by having QSOs in any mode (but not mixed) in the Ukrainian language. Each station in the Ukraine is worth the number of points corresponding to the number of the oblast⁴ in which it is located. Each station outside the Ukraine is worth 100 points.⁵ A log extract verified by two signatures of radio amateurs having their own callsigns, two 3 x 4 cm photos, and a statement addressed to the Chairman of "Radio-TLUM" and providing personal data on the applicant's occupation, education, callsign, amateur radio experience, sport category, and home and postal addresses, should be sent to P. Yu. Strelkov, P. O. Box 4994, 286018 VINNITSA-18, Ukrainian SSR.

The entry fee is 5 rubles for Soviet radio amateurs and 10 IRCs for foreign ones. Participants in the anti-fascist struggle in World War II, concentration camp inmates, and persons handicapped from childhood do not have to pay the entry fee.

VHF*UHF*SHF, edited by S. Bubennikov, RV3DS

P. O. Box 270, 141006 MYTISHCHI⁶

Two intense winter meteor showers -- the Geminids (maximum 13 December) and the Quadrants (maximum 3 January) -- supported MS QSOs on 144 MHz, as indicated in reports from UA9XQ, UZ3TXB, UL7TQ, RB5L, UA3MBJ/UA3MHJ⁷, UB4EWA, UA4NM, UA9APH, UA4AK, RB5VD, RA3LE, UA3RBO, and UA1ZCL.

During the Quadrants, UA3RBO worked OK3LQ, and on 5 January 1991 DF3LC 2130 km away. UA3RBO believes that the shorter the distance to the other station, the shorter the bursts and the more difficult the QSO.

There was considerable interest, particularly among foreign radio amateurs, in "tandem" expeditions to rare squares. RB5AL and RB5AO operated from KO62 and KO72.

UA3MHJ, the son of UA3MBJ, had 25 QSOs during the two showers.

UZ3TXB had 11 QSOs out of 25 skeds. He had a practically "hopeless" (due to the distance -- 2500 km) sked with UL7TQ, but in the first cycle copied a 15-second burst S-9, this however being the only burst he copied.

³The Ukrainian title of the society, on which the abbreviation is presumably based, would be close to the Russian title, except for the final word, meaning "language" -- a word beginning with "m" in Ukrainian rather than yazyk (tongue) in the Russian title.

⁴The Ukraine is divided into 25 oblasts numbered 057 through 082 (061 is not presently assigned), plus two "urban oblasts" -- the cities of Kiev (186) and Sevastopol' (187).

⁵Taken literally, this would mean that stations with Ukrainian-speaking operators, located outside the USSR -- say, in Canada -- count for credit.

⁶This is the first I recall seeing RV3DS's address. He might find it useful to receive courtesy subscriptions to Western publications devoted to VHF/UHF/SHF.

(Continued)

Speaking of maximum distance for MS contacts, statistical analysis by 250 MS enthusiasts from Europe, including the USSR, shows that the average personal distance record is about 2000 km. The European record of 3101 km remains unbroken after 14 years. We are convinced that propagation is possible from several trails with intervening reflection from the Earth's surface. However the simultaneous appearance at the necessary locations of even two properly oriented and ionized trails (in which case the QSO distance can reach 4000 km) is an extremely rare event. If such a thing happens, a contact must be attempted in one burst.

Soviet amateurs, according to foreign amateur magazines, sometimes don't adhere to meteor skeds, which last 1 to 2 hours. After several unsuccessful five-minute receive cycles they shut down, figuring that the "meteors aren't flying" today -- while their sked partners continue to "warm up" the airwaves.

However the meteors are always flying, as shown by an experiment conducted by I3LGP and G4IOG, based on 27 weekly skeds, all successful.

"IN THE FEDERATION OF RADIO SPORT OF THE USSR."⁷

"The Bureau of the Presidium of the Federation of Radio Sport of the USSR has examined a statement by Moscow shortwaver L[eonid Mikhaylovich] Labutin (ex-UA3CR) [AB4LZ] concerning the restoration to him of permission to operate an amateur radio station. The Bureau noted that the actions of L. Labutin during the period of the liquidation of the consequences of the earthquake in Armenia (his intentional disinformation on the location of equipment that had been received from the USA for conducting this work) did not facilitate the consolidation of the efforts of all radio amateurs of the country taking part in rescue work. These actions objectively reduced the effectiveness of their work.

"Taking into account the fact that two years have passed since the closing of L. Labutin's amateur radio station and the fact that he offered his apologies to the FRS of the USSR for his actions during this period, the Bureau of the Presidium of the FRS of the USSR has decided to apply to the State Telecommunication Inspectorate of the USSR to restore to L. Labutin permission to operate an amateur radio station. The application has been granted."

SP #41, signed to press 8 October 1991, NLD-1510, drafted 3 October 1991:

The State Radio Frequency Commission of the USSR has decided to permit radio amateurs of the country to install and to make use of repeaters in the 144 - 146 MHz and 1260 - 1300 MHz bands. The power of the transmitters may be up to 5 Watts. ...

K8MN⁸ will begin operating from Botswana in January 1992. He is now active as 9L1US (usually on 21237 kHz beginning at 1800 UT).

[LATE NOTE: DOSAAF, SPONSOR OF THE SOVIET RADIO AMATEUR MOVEMENT, HAS CHANGED ITS NAME TO OSTO (OBORONNAYA SPORTIVNO-TEKHNICHESKAYA ORGANIZATSIYA, DEFENSE SPORT-TECHNICAL ORGANIZATION). IT SEEMS THERE WILL BE ONE OSTO PER REPUBLIC, INCLUDING THE RSFSR (RUSSIA), PLUS A COORDINATING ORGANIZATION IN MOSCOW, THE SOSTO UNION (SOYUZ) OF OSTOs. WE'LL HAVE MORE NEXT TIME. WE'LL TRY TO HAVE MORE NEXT TIME!]

⁷The same announcement, minus the last sentence, was carried in SP #09, signed to press 26 February 1991, adjacent to NLD-1479.

⁸David E. Heil of the U.S. Foreign Service.

xxx

1st Annual Cumberland County
"WINTER HAMFEST"
February 29, 1992

Hamfest / Coffee Social / Computerfest

- What:** A winter cabin-fever escape! This event is co-sponsored by CCARS, HRAC, and SMRA. Support your local clubs.
- Great food.
 - Door prizes.
- Donations at the Door are \$5. Reserved tables are \$10; and tables at-the-door, \$15.
- Where:** West Shore Elks
BPOE 2257, Camp Hill, PA
(See reverse side for location and directions.)
- When:** Available for Dealer setup at 6:00 a.m.
Open for General Admissions at 8:00 a.m.
- Who:** CCARS, c/o Joe Shuey - NE3H
3425 Logan Street
Camp Hill, PA 17011
Make checks payable to: CCARS
Information: Call 717/737-6453

Talk-in: 145.27 mhz (N3FUD/R)

Pre-registration Form. Please return by **January 30, 1992**
(If you desire a confirmation or motel information, enclose SASE with form.)

Please accept my reservation for
the following Number of tables: _____

(For CCARS use.)

Name

Call (if any)

Street

Phone

City/State

Zip Code

NEW Virginia Traffic Training Net (VTTN)

6:30 p.m. 3685 KHz
5 - 8 wpm

PURPOSE: To expose people to traffic procedures. . .
To enjoy CW. . .
To meet others and have fun. . .

GOAL: To enable a person to become an experienced traffic handler and participate in

- high speed CW traffic nets such as:

Virginia Net (VN)	7:00 and 10:00 p.m.	3680 KHz
Fourth Region Net (4RN)	7:45/9:30 p.m.	3567 KHz
Eastern Area Net (EAN)	8:30 p.m.	3670 KHz
Hit and Bounce Net (HB)	8:30 a.m.	7039 KHz
- To understand traffic procedures and thus be ready to join a voice traffic net in time of emergency (ARES). There are 6 traffic nets in Virginia - three HF and three VHF nets.

PROCEDURES:

NCS (Net Control Station) will 'call the net.'
Stations will check in with (QTC) or without (QRU) traffic.
Each session, a numbered message will be sent. These messages must be copied and then sent to a 'Master Traffic Handler' on a later net. When a station has copied and sent all of these messages, a certificate will be given.

After start up, we hope to have a different NCS each evening to

- expose everyone to many fists and keys
- enable everyone to participate (including beginners)
- keep anyone from burning out.

While one 'Master Traffic Handler' will be ready each night to send a message for everyone on the net, others will be available to help receive traffic and reduce net time.

THE BEST WAY TO FIGURE IT ALL OUT IS TO LISTEN A FEW TIMES AND THEN ASK QUESTIONS.
EXAMPLE OF 'HOW IT WORKS,' AVAILABEL FROM N4GHI

INFORMATION/ QUESTIONS

Call Geri Sweeney - N4GHI (703) 360-3773
Write - 4728 Neptune Drive, Alexandria VA 223098
Packet: SP N4GHI @ WA3TAI
SSB: VSBN 6:00 p.m. 3947 KHz (VA Single Sideband Net)
NVTN 7:30 p.m. 147.30 (No VA Tfc Net)



Recognitions

Congratulations to Hugh Turnbull - W3ABC and Kay Craigie - KC3LM on their re-election as ARRL Atlantic Division Director and Vice Director, respectively.

Congratulations to Bill Tynan - W3XO on his election as President of AMSAT. In the November issue of Auto-Call we misread a semicolon and demoted him to Executive Vice President. We extend our apologies, Bill! Bill has now announced the appointment of **Frank Bauer - KA3HDO** as vice president for manned space programs, and the appointment of **Perry Klein - W3PK** to a new position as AMSAT vice president for government liaison.

Ken Miller - K6IR has Worked Them All! After 51 years of hamming – and after losing lots of sleep chasing those elusive last countries – Ken has now worked **all** of the active DXCC countries and climbed to the top rung of the Honor Roll. Albania was the last one he needed, and then he worked seven of them in the past few weeks. He also recently achieved the 5-band SSB DXCC award.

Pearl Harbor Survivors have been recognized in a feature article in the December QST. Local Amateurs mentioned include **Ernest Porter - N4JOQ**, **Melvin Barrett - K3KQK**, **Ivan Conrad - W4NFW**, and **Ken Miller - K6IR**, **John Bennett - K4ZEI**, **Jack Heffernan - W4HVG**. It is an interesting story that points up the value of Radio Amateurs.

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Silent Keys

William Edward "Bill" Cooke - K3CN became a Silent Key on December 2. Bill was a HAM for 55 years and a member of AARC for 34 years. He was AARC president in 1980. Many years before that he was active in BARC and was BARC president in 1950. He was also an active member of the QCWA and of the SOWP.

During the last 5 years of his life, Bill's activities were severely curtailed after he contracted Guillain-Barre Syndrome following a flu shot. HAM radio then became "his life". He was one of a trio of HAMS in Anne Arundel County who kept contact with various ships as they sailed on long voyages. In one incident, he came to the aid of a couple when their sextant was washed overboard in the mid-Pacific. Bill connected them with experts on celestial navigation.

A 1992 scholarship has been established in Bill's name. Please send contributions to AARC, P.O.Box 308, Davidsonville, MD 21035. Make checks out to AARC and clearly mark "Cooke Scholarship" in the lower left hand corner.

Bill is survived by his wife Mary and daughter Joyce, who recently obtained her HAM

Holly - N3BMB

Walter Carr - W3LDD recently became a Silent Key. He was a charter member of the MEPN and usually MC of the pre-net sessions. He was always there with words of wisdom concerning the MEPN, its history, its duties, and its current operating philosophy. He was an active liaison to Delaware and the Third Region Net. He had "worked-all-counties" three times, and was over 300 on DXCC.

He is survived by his wife, Elinor.

See MEPN Column on page 45

ANNOUNCING THE VIENNA WIRELESS SOCIETY WINTERFEST™ 1992

FOOD SERVICE

RAIN SNOW OR SHINE
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23rd

7:30 AM

AT THE

VIENNA COMMUNITY CENTER

120 Cherry Street

Vienna, VA

SNACKS—DRINKS

GENERAL ADMISSION

\$5.00 PER TICKET

XYL, UNDER 12 FREE

ALL YOUTH IN UNIFORM ADMITTED FREE

VEC EXAM 9 AM

SATURDAY

FROSTBITE

TAILGATING

\$10 PER SPACE • OPEN 6 AM
FIRST COME • FIRST SERVED

SHUTTLE BUS FROM
VIENNA METRO KISS & RIDE

7:30 AM—2:30 PM

TALK IN K4HTA/R

146.085in	146.685out
146.190in	146.790out



USUAL AMENITIES

DRAWINGS EVERY HOUR 9-3

FOR INFO . . . NANCY DRAHEIM NK4U (703) 691-0078
FOR TABLES CALL . . . HARRY KAKLIKIAN W4ACN (703) 978-4402

AN ARRL SANCTIONED HAMFEST

Potomac Valley Radio Club

Meetings: Second Monday of each month. Next meeting January 8, Room 2154 Tawes Building, U of Maryland, College Park University of Maryland, College Park, MD

Repeater: Most PVRC members can be found on the 147.00 Ashton repeater.

Packet: N2FB 145.57, W3LPL 145.59, W0YVA 145.51

Information: Fred Laun, K3ZO (301) 899-1235 or John Pescatore, WB2EKK (301) 622-0219

The KM4YY PVRC New Guy Wire-Antenna Award

In 1990 Lee Mairs - KM4YY, was cajoled, prodded and pushed by his "Contesting Elmer" Ben Shaver, AA4XU, into entering his first Amateur Radio contest. Even though his antennas - fanned dipoles on 40 and 20 meters - fell down and had to be restrung during the first hour of the contest, Lee won the Low Power SSB award for the state of Virginia.

In order to provide a similar incentive for new contesters and to increase the Potomac Valley Radio Club's score, KM4YY will provide a trophy to the new (less than one year) PVRC member using only a vertical or wire antennas with the highest combined score in the ARRL DX CW and SSB contests.

The 1992 ARRL DX Contest will be held on the weekend of February 15-16 (CW) and March 7-8 (SSB). Any ham who joined PVRC after 1 September 1990 is eligible to compete. The goal is increased participation. There are no power restrictions, but you can only use wire antennas or single verticals.. KM4YY wants you to see that contesting can be fun even without 7 element monoband Yagis or 3 element Quads on the lowbands. Likewise, entrants are really encouraged to use the DX Cluster Packet System for rare DX spots.

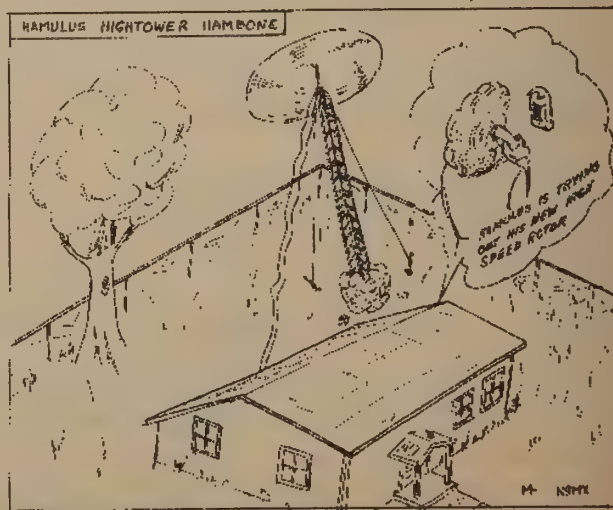
If you are not a PVRC member, here is what you can do. Contact a PVRC member and attend their meetings on the second Monday in January and February (January 13th and February 10th). You can be voted into the club at the second meeting. Then all that is required is entering the two contests and sending your score to the ARRL.

OK, so you don't know anything about contesting. It doesn't make any difference. The PVRC is full of both experienced experts and fledgling contesters. PVRC even has a contest cookbook to explain the mystery of search and pounce, dupe sheets and even

suggests what band to be working during each hour of the contest. If you have access to a PC, a club member will help you get the famous K1EA CT contest logging software up and running. This stuff will spot the DX, switch your transceiver and even call the DX for you as well as keep a running tally of your score, ensure that you don't work the same station more than once on a band and print the logs and entry sheets for your ARRL submission.

Contesting is just one more "fun" facet of Amateur Radio. Take advantage of this opportunity to get tips from some really world famous operators. Jump into the pool with the rest of the PVRC gang. Even if you don't win the KM4YY PVRC New Guy Wire Antenna Award you are sure to add a few countries to your DXCC list, improve your operating skills, join an elite group of Radio Amateurs (just ask them!) and most important, have a lot of fun!

Submitted by: Lee S. Mairs - KM4YY
(703) 538-4500/522-9209



Mt. Vernon Amateur Radio Club

Meetings: Second Thursday of Each Month, 7:30 p.m. (except December)
Mt. Vernon Governmental Center, 2511 Parkers Ln., Alexandria

Repeater: WD4PDP/R 146.055 input 146.655 output

Nets: Every Tuesday at 8:00 pm (0100 UTC Wednesday's)
Starts on 2-meter then moves to 10-meter on 28.405

Information: Chris Morrow, W4WYL (703)765-5964

Training Classes: John Forrest, WZ4A (703) 971-3905

Mailing Address: c/o Frank Mackey, N4GUS, 8072 Athena St., Springfield, VA 22153

HO HO HO! On behalf of Mt. Vernon ARC, I hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas and the New Year brings nothing but pleasure to all!

Our October presentation by Tom Warren K3TW was a great success. He had to postpone his first scheduled appearance and work almost kept him from visiting us, but he made it and showed some excellent slides taken in Tanzania. THANKS for making such an effort to visit us, Tom! November was a very interesting talk by William Gamble from NTIA about the upcoming WARC conference. He explained how proposals get to the table in these conferences and told us a little about what is up for discussion in 1992. THANK YOU, William, for spending your Thursday evening with us.

THANKS FOR COMING to our October meeting: Edward Stanley, Dale Hazelwood - NH6CI, Gary Talman, Micheline Gammons, Dorothy Speakman (XYL of Ed W3AUR), Chris Bayer - KD4EDY, and Geoffrey Brock. AND THANKS to our November visitors: Stephen Wiles - KB4USM and Betty Hickey (XYL of Jim). WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS: Mindy Wirth - WQ9Q, Chuck Haser - W3HSW, Michael Nugent - KD4GCS, and Jim Hickey (no call yet, but soon!). We always are delighted to be able to greet newcomers at our meetings, and we're even happier if they decide to join our club.

MVARC's first two Amateur Radio exam sessions have taken place and we are pleased. The art of getting people registered, tested and provided with certificates of completion is one which we are still working, but we hope to make the procedure as smooth and painless as possible for the test-takers. We will continue to hold exams the second Saturday of each month at Lee District Park in Fairfax County at no charge. Pre-registration is appreciated but walk-ins will be welcome. Call Frank Mackey N4GUS, 703-455-1510 for pre-registration and information. Anyone interested in being a VE or helping

at the exams (you don't have to be a VE to help out) should also get in touch with Frank.

In October, many members of the club were on hand for the West Potomac High School Fall Fest. Since my space is short, I must THANK YOU ALL as a group. We had 2-meters and an HF rig and succeeded in making several contacts. Also, several homebrew items were on display and, as usual, morse code was a real draw for lots of curious people. THANK YOU EVERYONE FOR YOUR TIME.

The January meeting will be well worth participating in, so plan to be with us . . . January 9th.

Marci, KM4VM

Baltimore Amateur Radio Club
BARC

MiniFest

Wednesday
January 15

Timonium Fairgrounds
Timonium, Maryland

Prince George's Wireless Assn.

Meetings: First Working Tuesday of each month, 7:30 p.m., American
Red Cross Service Building, 6206 Belcrest Road, Hyattsville, MD 20782
Club Station: K3CEZ
Mailing: 4109 Kennedy Street, Hyattsville, MD 20781
Information: Frank Holton, WA3ZMW (301) 927-1245

It was a time for Cheer, Revelry and Good Fellowship at the Prince George's Wireless Assn. meeting on Tuesday, December 3. It was decided that the regular business meeting would be replaced by an informal gathering of friends and members.

Frank, our esteemed President, had a few tricks up his sleeves, just like any good magician would have. He had planned all of this un-beknown to all of us.

There was a myriad of refreshment - chips, crackers, cheese dip, cookies, cakes, cider, soft drinks and coffee. He also had everyone attending bring a wrapped gift from their time valued electronic or radio junk box. Lou - W3IHL brought his violin and played some old memorable classics. Jim - WA3NSI brought his guitar and played a medley of tunes and sang in his most melodious voice.

Stories were passed about youthful days and memories gone by. We were happy to see Les - WA3NGF at the meeting. It was only last month that Les underwent by-pass surgery.

All in all, it was a fun time, with the presents numbered and members drawing the numbers out of a hat. Those attending were: Frank - WA3ZMW, Lou - W3IHL, Jim - WA3NSI, Charlie - KA3COT, Les - WA3NGF, Frank - KA3GAV, Larry - N3EYE, Vince - N3IEG, Morton - KA3ZHP and Kenny - N3HLY.

PGWA would like to wish "Happy and Joyous Holidays" to one and all, especially the Auto-Call staff.

Ken Easton - N3HLY

The Net After Christmas

'Twas the night after Christmas, And outside the shack
The trains were still running, Around on their track.
The rig was tuned in, For the 2-meter net,
In hopes that no one, Had QRT'd yet.
Sated with Santa, And still overfed,
The faithful HAMS, Were still not in bed.
Out of the woodwork, They came, one and all
Responding to net control, Giving their call.
On Tony! On Bettye!, John, Holly and Bob!
(Keeping the Bobs straight, Is really a job!)
But the Club has come through, In its usual style,
Brightening the airwaves, For quite a long while.
And, now here's a greeting, To CQ from me:
Happy New Year to all, And to all, 73

Lew - N3IJK
Via Holly - N3BMB

Metrovision Amateur TV Club

FAST SCAN - COLOR - ATV

Meetings: Quarterly: Call for next meeting time and place.
Repeater: WA9GVK/4 (Video and Audio) 425-431 MHz in; 438-444 MHz out
Also accessible on 144.970, simplex, audio.
On-the-air: Sundays at 8:00 p.m.
Mailing: Metrovision, Inc., P.O. Box 8231, Falls Church, VA 22041
Information: Dick - WB3EPX (301) 439-8135
Gene - AD3F (301) 774-5307

The Metrovision annual dinner was held at Milanos Italian Restaurant in Camp Springs, Maryland on Sunday, November 10. We had a total of seventeen members and friends in attendance and we all enjoyed the fellowship and excellent food. In fact, it was one of the best dinners the club has ever had. We did not make any decisions as to who the 1992 slate of club officers will be, but that information should be available for the next article. We are inclosing some photographs that were taken at the dinner.

Our best wishes to Warren - N4MWU and his XYL, Laura, on the announcement that

they are expecting their second child sometime in April or May. It seems like just yesterday that son Scott was born.

The Metrovision March meeting and social will be held at the QTH of Dick - WB3EPX. We will inform you of the exact date and time in the February article. Please plan on attending as this will be the first meeting of the new year and we do want to get the year off to a good start.

See you on ATV

Dick - WB3EPX

Metrovision Annual Dinner



Bruce-WA9GVK & Rhonda



Dave-W3PJM & Ruth-K3AGR



Annie & Walter Pike

Vienna Wireless Society

25 Years of Public Service

Meetings: 2nd and 4th Fridays of each month, 7:30 p.m.
Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry Street, Vienna, VA
Repeaters: K4HTA/R 146.085 in/146.685 out
222.340 in/223.940 out, 448.250 in/443.250 out
Nets: Every Thursday at 7:30 p.m. on 146.085 in and 146.685 out.
Pow-Wow Net Every Night at 9:00 p.m. at 28.400 MHz
Information: Pat Crosby, KA4FHK (703) 978-6316 (H); (301) 731-9800 (W)
Training Classes: Paul Wilkins, AB4CY (703) 560-2779
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 418, Vienna, VA 22183

1991 is now history and my tenure as president is over. It has been an exciting year for me. One I will remember for some time to come.

I was assisted by: Dave Rogers - N4JGQ as vice president, Barry Bennecoff - KD4BK as treasurer, and Warren Bain - N4MWU as secretary. My thanks to their efforts.

The club was guided by a five member Board of Directors and, with 3 new members elected to replace the out-going members, the club will be in capable hands once again. The returning 2 members are Barry - KD4BK, Bob - KM4JO, and the three new members that include: Mac McClain - KC4IGS, Jim Parsons - WA4LTO, and Dave Rogers - N4JGQ. The Board of Directors will elect the president for 1992 at their December meeting.

I wish to thank all the members who helped and participated in all the events put on by VWS. Starting with our Annual Banquet in March, Field Day in June, Picnic in August, Fox Hunt in the fall, numerous public service events, new 440 repeater at Fair Oaks Hospital, twice a year training classes, and of course our main event . . . WINTERFEST.

I want to say thanks to all the new hams who joined in 1991, and hope they will get involved as do most hams in all the activities sponsored by VWS.

And finally, I am proud to be able to tell my friends I was the president of the Vienna Wireless Society for 1991.

See you at the next meeting.

Patrick M. Crosby - KA4FHK
1991 VWS President

Capital City Amateur Radio Society

Greater Washington Soap Box Derby Participation



CCARS Members PEPCO Derby Director
Pete - N3CUKY, Steve - W3ETX, Sherman Groen, Ken Tomasello

Herndon Repeater Group

Meetings: On-the-air meetings on alternate Mondays at 9:00 p.m.
Repeater: N4FXP/R 145.31/144.91 MHz
Packet BBS: 145.09 MHz
Mailing: Herndon Repeater Group, P.O. Box 5073, Herndon, VA 22070
Training: Michael Weber - WB8RDN (703) 450-2304
Information: Michael Rosati - N4FXP (703) 481-8380

The Herndon Repeater Group (HRG) code and theory class has ended and resulted in a number of new Hams, many of whom have joined the ranks as HRG members and can be found on the HRG 145.31 MHz N4FXP/R Repeater. Their names and callsigns (if known) are listed below. If you hear them, please welcome them to our hobby.

Those who began with no license and earned a Technician Plus ticket are:

Lee Yost - KD4GSR, Jodi Yost - KD4GSP, Arnold Gresham - KD4GSQ, Ann Weber - KD4GSS, Christopher Crabtree - KD4GSV, Terence Passey - KD4GSW, James Hogarty - KD4GSX, Teresia Sanders - KD4GTA, Ann Herlich - KD4GTU, Kay Colton - KD4GSZ, William Clinger - KD4HAU, Donna Smith - KD4HAT (age 8), Larry Wiggins - KD4HAS, Richard Bubeck - ?

Upgrading from Novice to Technician Plus were: Barbara Yost - KA8FUI and Jim Crocker - KA4MXD.

Earning their Novice tickets were: Christine Cutler - ?, Thomas Hogarty - KD4GSY (age 12), Benjamin Preston - KD4GST (age 13).

Those passing Element 2 theory and who will soon be taking the No Code Technician exam are: Robert Armen, Miles Oliver, David Schwartz (age 14), Johnathan Wise (age 12), Kelly Harrigan, (age 14), Sean Regan (age 16).

Those beginning with no license and earning a No Code Technician ticket were:

David Kochendarfer, Judy Moore, Aryan Razeghi, Theresa Williams, Erica Frisbie (age 8), Michael Cutler, Marsha Miller, Cleveland Eley, Brad Schwartz.

Jodi Yost - KD4GSP and Christopher Crabtree - KD4GSV, both graduates of the HRG Technician course, are congratulated on their marriage on 30 November. Jodi is the

daughter of Tom Yost - WB8ZRP and Barbara Yost - KA8FUI, and the sister of Lee Yost - KD4GSR. Many wonder if there will be enough radios to go around and if Tom will ever be able to get back into the Ham shack now that he has so much competition!

This training course resulted in several relatives of HRG members earning Ham tickets. Specifically, Donna Smith - KD4HAT (age 8), daughter of Don - KD4CHU; Judy Moore (call not yet received), XYL of Jerry - AC4JV; Erica Frisbie (call not received yet), 8 year old daughter of Bill - W3EMH and Elena - KD4DEI; my own XYL Ann Weber - KD4GSS and the entire Yost clan mentioned above. Congratulations to all!

For those keeping track, it took just over 20 days (to everyone's pleasant surprise) for the first batch of Novice licenses to be issued, from the date the 610s were mailed to Gettysburg. The second batch took 4 weeks.

The dates have been finalized for next fall's HRG Novice and Technician code and theory course. It will be held on Saturdays, 12 September to 21 November 1992. If you know of anyone interested in taking this course, have them contact either phone number listed above. The course will be limited to 35 people. HRG is also investigating the level of Ham community interest in a Spring General class code and theory course in Herndon. The course would end on 9 May. If you hold a Technician Plus license and are interested, please call me for details at the number listed above.

The next HRG ARRL/VEC Novice - Extra exam testing session will be held on Saturday 9 May. The site will be the cafeteria of the Herndon High School. Pre-registration is requested. Call either phone number listed above for details after 20 April. HRG intends to offer VE Exams each Spring and Fall.

(Continued)

Metropolitan Communications Network

Representing Six Meters in the Greater National Capital Area

Meetings: Quarterly, on the second Sunday of the month.
Time and place to be announced.
Repeater: N3AGB/R, 52.250 MHz in; 53.250 MHz out. Accessible on 147.36 MHz
On-the-air: Saturdays at 1900 hours
Mailing: Bob Sporn - WA3GGO, 9927 Cottrell Tr, Silver Spring, MD 20903
Information: Bob Sporn - WA3GGO (301) 434-1719

An apology is in order. At the time copy was prepared for the December issue of Auto-Call, anticipating the completion of the tie-in of our repeater with the 147.36 machine of the Alexander Graham Bell Radio Club, we erroneously assumed it would be simplex, as our previous tie-in had been with another machine years ago. The current arrangement is NOT ON SIMPLEX!

Six meters had a band opening. Stan Brigham - W3TFA worked Surinam, Brazil, Ecuador, Argentina and the Galapagos Beacon, and Albania. Joe Saunders - K3UAL worked Korea on ten meters.

THE SUNDAY MORNING COFFEE NET (50.4 MHz) AT 0900 HOURS.

Richard Weaver - KA3BTD repaired a six-meter rig and sent it to his father in Florida. Richard worked Brazil, Chile, Ecuador. Check-ins have increased. Activity on the six-meter repeater has increased, owing in part to the tie-in with the Alexander Graham Bell Pioneer Radio Club's two meter repeater. We are indebted to Bron Kidwell - N3AGB whose efforts have made all this possible.

MARYLAND FREE STATE SIX METER SIDEBAND NET (50.125 MHz) SUNDAYS AT 1900 Hours

With the band openings, the six-meter activity has been mainly on sideband. Chris Kushay - WA3LJR has returned and will continue as Net Control.

Bob - WA3GGO

Herndon Repeater Group - Continued

HRG has been requested by senior officials of the local Girl Scout Council to demonstrate Ham Radio to over 600 teenage Girl Scouts during an open house on 1 February at an area high school. HRG plans to set up a Field Day type demonstration and operate both HF SSB and SW stations and 2-meter packet. This invitation came about as a result of continued contact HRG has maintained with officials of both the area Boy and Girl Scout Councils. HRG intends to photograph and videotape this event. Watch for details in Auto-Call.

Information on the HRG packet (145.09 MHz) system can be obtained from Bill - N4WJN on the HRG Repeater.

Many HRG members are planning to journey to Ham Radio Mecca (a.k.a. the Dayton Hamvention) in April. One item yet to be worked out is the mode of transportation. Interested HRG club members should contact N4FXP, N4WJN or KC4CHU for details.

Planning is also under way for Field Day '92. HRG has obtained a full size triband Yagi for use at our Battery/QRP effort. With all the new club members and graduates from the now completed Code and Theory course, Field Day '92 should be quite an event.

Mike Weber - WB8RDN

Tri-County Amateur Radio Club

Meetings:	Semi-annual business meetings, time and date announced on the air and in the club newsletter.
Repeater:	KA3LAO/R, 147.780 MHz in; 147.180 MHz out.
On-the-air:	Tuesdays at 1930 hours (Local time), Amateur Radio Newsline Tuesdays at 1915 hours (Local time).
Mailing:	P.O. Box 10592, Silver Spring, MD 20914

With the holiday season behind us it is now time to look forward to the challenges of the new year. While it will be hard to top the events of the past year, this year should prove to be full of exciting events. The Tri-County Amateur Radio Club will continue to be an active part of the lives of its members and repeater users.

HOLIDAYFEST 91 is now history. The success of this event is clear evidence of things we as Amateurs can accomplish through cooperative action. The joint planning and committee efforts of the Goddard and Tri-County Amateur Radio Clubs along with the contributions of many additional volunteers made this a very memorable event. Since both clubs have yet to learn their lessons from the incalculable number of hours spent in preparation for this event, it has been decided to do it again next year. It is not too early to mark your calendars for December 6, 1992, for HOLIDAYFEST 92, currently planned for the same location at Prince Georges Community College in Largo, Maryland. Keep watching this report for additional details. So go to your computer, pull up your automated calendar and make it a point to join the fun.

The recent eye-ball meeting featured among other events, the election of club directors. We would like to welcome Mike Baker - KA3OFR, as our new director. Our sincere thanks go to Ron Gates - N3EFC, who has served as a director for several years even though his home QTH is in Pennsylvania. Thanks, Ron, give your car a rest, it deserves it!

As most of the repeater users know, the TRI-ARC White Oak repeater (147.18+) has had a bumpy recovery from its "lightning courtship" with Mother Nature. It now appears that the machine is back (including the autopatch), better than ever. Rumor has it that John - KA3LAO, has a number of new features he will be introducing this year, due largely in part to the opportunity he was given to completely rebuild the system. Of course we have told him

that he can not go on vacation, since every time he does something strange happens to the repeater. He has assured us that he has built enough safeguards into the new system to break that spell.

As reported last month, a new feature has been added to the White Oak repeater to reduce undesirable keyups resulting from the sensitivity of the multiple receiver sites. Remember, there is approximately a one second keying delay when first bringing up the machine. What this means is that you should delay your first voice transmission for at least one second to give the repeater time to "recognize" that you are transmitting. Once the machine has been activated, the keying delay will not again be required until 30 seconds of repeater inactivity have passed.

Heard On The Repeater: This new feature of our report will attempt to provide suggestions for efficient and effective use of the repeater:

- o Over the past month we have heard a number of stations who do not let the repeater completely drop before they begin their conversation. On the 18 machine it is good practice to let the repeater completely drop and pause a moment before beginning your next transmission. This technique not only allows for the two minute timeout timer (the "alligator") to reset, but permits anyone with an emergency to make a call.
- o Strange words have been heard recently from stations who are quick on the transmit button. Many of the new synthesized rigs have a built-in delay between transmit and receive which can cause the loss of part of the first word of a transmission. To avoid this problem and to accommodate any repeater link delays (particularly when using the autopatch), hold the transmit key for about one second before speaking. This will assure that all your words are transmitted.

(Continued)

Pentagon Amateur Radio Club

Meetings	Monthly, on the second Wednesday of the month. Noon. PARC clubroom (5B272), The Pentagon
Repeater:	K4AF/R, 444.55 MHz. CTCSS 88.5 sometimes in effect.
Packet:	145.07 Digi - K4AF, Mailbox - PARC, Node - PNTAGN
Mailing:	P.O. Box 47063, Washington, DC 20050
Information:	David G. Boyd - K9MX (703) 659-6241 (H) William Klein - N4VBW (703) 697-8157 (O) or (703) 590-2546 (H)

It's been a wild month at the Pentagon ARC. First, we got word that the Pentagon was refinishing the roof and planned to remove all our antennas. That generated a great flurry of excitement and a meeting with the powers that be in the Pentagon. It turns out they have no intention of pulling down our antennas, but we do have some key administrative requirements to meet. Needless to say, that put off our antenna party. We'll be rescheduling.

In the meantime, Mal Billings - KB3J, appears to have found us a terrific new site for the 440 MHz repeater - one that puts us on a tower on the highest piece of land in Arlington. We'll keep everybody posted as we finish the arrangements with our new host and go through the re-coordination process with TMARC.

Paul Bauer - N3DAN, our most talented technician and connoisseur of old radios (his tend - regardless of age - to look better than

factory new), is now Mr. Bauer. He retired at the beginning of the month, but we'll make it a point to stay in touch. It's always helpful to have at least one member who really understands Ohm's Law.

Dick Williams - WE6H, has been designated a field checker for new DXCC applications. If you need to have your cards checked, get in touch with him. It takes two field checkers to do the job, but Dick can help you make the necessary arrangements.

Alex Masone - WB7ERU, is finishing up the Post Graduate Intelligence Program at the Defense Intelligence College, and has been admitted as a candidate now for a Master of Science in Strategic Intelligence. He's also working hard in an effort to upgrade over the Christmas holidays.

Spike - K9MX

Tri-County Amateur Radio Club - Continued

Tri-County ARC would like to invite all Amateur operators to join our weekly net on Tuesdays at 1930 hrs, local. Be sure to be listening at approximately 1915 hrs, local, for the Amateur Radio Newline, an Amateur Radio news service from California. Newline always has information of interest to the Amateur community.

Members are reminded that membership renewals are past due. Please make sure that you are updated for this year. New members are always welcome to join Tri-County ARC.

We have a family membership plan which makes it convenient for our growing Amateur families. For membership information contact us at the post office box, join us during one of our club net meetings on Tuesdays, or contact Paul, N3GII, Tri-County Membership Chairman.

Don't forget that Tri-County ARC also operates a repeater in Ocean City on 147.015 (KA3BAF). All are welcome to use this machine when in the area.

Greg - WA3FSC

Goddard Radio Club

WA3NAN

- Meetings:** Third Wednesday of the month at 5:00 p.m. Goddard Radio Club Station, Soil Conservation Road, Greenbelt Maryland, across from the Soil Conservation Road gate of the Goddard Space Flight Center. This road may be accessed from either Route 193, Greenbelt Road, or Powder Mill Road.
- Repeater:** 146.835 MHz
- Net:** Information net every Wednesday evening at 8:00 p.m. local time.
Note: Changing to Thursday evenings at 9:00 p.m. about mid January
All Amateur Radio operators are welcomed.
- Information:** Chuck Sommer, N4OSD (301) 794-3280 or
Vikki Gigante, KA3PVS (301) 249-2609
-

Thanks to all of you who helped with the Holidayfest '91! Many hands made easy work or pretty easy work, anyway. All of the symposiums were wonderful and we would like to take this time to thank all of the speakers! Looking forward to Holidayfest '92 which will be Sunday, December 6, 1992.

The last shuttle retransmission was over Thanksgiving weekend. It turned out to be a six plus day mission due to an IMU failure. STS-44 was completely covered once again thanks to the heroic effort of our dedicated shuttle retransmission operators. Thanks especially to Jim Gass - N3CJN, Al Nollmeyer - W3YVQ and Pat Kilroy - WD8LAQ, who gave up a part of their Thanksgiving Day to make sure the mission was covered all day on Thanksgiving.

Another special thank you goes to Joe Grzesik - KU3Z who brought our water and worked the wee hours every night. Many thanks to all operators who participated this mission, including Bill Boston - N3DCI, who spent his vacation filling in, Marlin Heckendorn - WA3HEM, Emil Hymowitz - N3FHH, John Baugus - N3JME, who upgraded to General since the last mission and put in a great number of hours on this one, Henry Herman - W3UJ, Mike Katzmann - NV3Z, Bill Onuska - NI3E, Jack Stevens - KC3MM, Frank Turano - KA3GAL, Bill Graettinger - W3IUI, John Stolarik - K3CLG, Bill Count - NN30, John Hueber - KA3PVM and of course, the assistant shuttle retransmission directors, Dave Gossard - N3DRL and Jeff Nucciarone - N2BSS. A special thanks to Joe Grzesik's daughter for providing a special treat of Christmas cookies at landing!

The next mission will begin on January 22 and is a spacelab mission which means it is 24 hours a day, seven days! See you there, operators!

There will be a Shuttle Retransmission Training Workshop, finally. It is currently scheduled for Saturday, February 8, 1992, from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. at the Goddard Recreation Center. The place is currently tentative, pending the fact that their renovations are completed on time. If not, we'll get a conference room on base. Anyone who would like to do shuttle retransmission or who hasn't been trained since 1989 should attend this workshop. We will give a tour of the station after the workshop. All those interested should preregister with Vikki Gigante, (301) 249-2609 by February 2, 1992.

A poll was taken recently and it was decided to change the Wednesday Information Net to Thursday at 9:00 p.m. This was to facilitate the participation of more members for whom the Wednesday, 8:00 p.m. time had become difficult. This change will go into effect around the middle of January. As before, all Amateur Radio operators are welcomed to participate in the weekly information net.

A Happy and Prosperous New Year to all from the Goddard Amateur Radio Club !!!

Vikki Gigante - KA3PVS

MADRAS

The Maryland Apple Dumpling Radio Amateur Society Inc.

Meetings: 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the Month - 7:00 p.m.
At the NBC Building, 4001 Nebraska Avenue, N.W.
Repeater: 444.100/449.100 MHz 145.45/144.85 MHz
Packet: 145.55 MHz Node 44.96.0.85
Mailing: P.O. Box 2468, Wheaton, MD 20902
Information: Scott Standiford, W3YTW (301) 589-9321 or BBS
Larry Zeicheck, N3GKZ (301) 984-6112

Schedule of Events

- January 9 Regular meeting at 7:00 p.m.. The program will be a planning session on the spring DX-pedition in Western Maryland. There will be QLF contest.
- January 23 Regular meeting at 7:00 p.m. The program will be on Amateur Television and will be given by Gene Smar - AD3F.

Both meetings will be held in the NBC Building WKYS-FM conference room.

MADRAS now has a working station at the clubhouse in Rockville and can be heard on 80 through 10 meters. The club packet station became operational in mid November. For more information call Larry or Jean at (301) 984-6112.

As you are possibly aware, MADRAS has two DX-peditions in the planning stages. The first is a weekend in March on Backbone Mountain, elevation 3,300' in Garrett County in western Maryland. It will include operation on HF - VHF - UHF. We are in need of CW and phone operators to keep us on the air continuously during the weekend.

The second will be in the summer on an island in the Chesapeake Bay. We are negotiating with the owner of an island for access.

Garrett County is a rare county and will be in demand as is the island in question. These events will be promoted here in the U.S. and abroad. If interested, come to the January 9th meeting.

If you haven't made your reservations for the MADRAS dinner meeting on December 30th, Call Jean (301) 984-6112.

We have had many problems in activating our 440 repeater. They have been solved thanks to John - KA3LAO. The repeater was expected to be operational around the middle of December. See you on 440.

Happy New Year from MADRAS.

Scott - W3YTW

Foundation Meetings

The Foundation for Amateur Radio meets at 8:00 p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month.

Visitors are always welcome

Phone (703) 536-8469 for information

The next meeting will be on January 9 in Takoma Park, Maryland
Columbia Union College Science Building Auditorium, Flower Avenue

Talk-in on 147.18

Maryland Emergency Phone Net

Meetings: Every night, 3920 kHz, 1800 local time (All are welcome)
Net Manager: George Korper, WD3W
Secretary: Jim Mc Coy, N3EI
Treasurer: Rino Masso, KC3ZJ
Directors: K3ONU, KD3JK, WA3YLO, W3DQI (Alternate)
FAR Representative: KC3ZJ

The Maryland Emergency Phone Net (MEPN) is a club, a member of the National Traffic System (NTS), and meets every night on 3920 kHz at 1800L for the purposes of training operators in net procedures and traffic handling; to handle traffic for Maryland and the District of Columbia; and to establish communication links in these areas so that, in the event of an emergency requiring Amateur Radio communication assistance, the MEPN will be prepared to exercise these links until the emergency subsides.

All Radio Amateurs are invited to participate in the Maryland Emergency Phone Net. Those wishing to join the club and receive the monthly bulletin and rollcall sheet should contact either WD3W or N3EI. Yearly dues are \$7.00. There are currently 66 members.

By now everyone knows that W3LDD is a Silent Key. Walter Carr, a charter member of MEPN was very active on our net, usual MC of the pre-net sessions, and was always there with words of wisdom concerning the MEPN, its history, its duties, and its current operating philosophy. He was an active liaison to Delaware and the third region nets, and was known to show up on MDD now and then. He had "worked-all counties" three times, and was over 300 on DCCC. He was proud of the fact he conquered the disease of alcoholism 18 years ago, and Walt and his wife, Elinor, were very active in their church programs which emphasize concern in this area. He was a ham's ham, and all pall bearers were Amateurs, including George - WD3W, Mike - K1BGT, and Bob - KD3JK from MEPN. He is buried in the military section of the cemetery. His position of Senior Director will be filled by Bob - K3ONU. We already miss Walt. We thank Bob for stepping in to fill this slot.

The Constitution/By-laws are in the final stages of review and should be ready for ballot by the time you read this. W3YVQ and WD3W, with copious comments from several members,

are responsible for bringing this document up to date. Soon to follow is the appendix, comprising about six different operating plans/scenarios, and will be published once the directors give final approval.

Walt - KA3AMK is welcomed back to MEPN. Walt joined our net many years ago, moved to Florida, and now is back in the land of pleasant living and joining our net on a regular basis. Others heard from afar include Ted - WA2ERT, ex-manager, who checks in from Maine, and Don - K3CKC, who says hello from Ocala, Florida when the band is right. Eric - W2YFM checks in almost every Saturday from New York.

Finally, we hope you had a pleasant Christmas season, and we wish everyone a very Happy New year. The "early check-out" session is a boon to those who listen for traffic coming their way but then want to leave for dinner. But, I wish more of us would stick around for the comment session. With winter propagation, clear frequency and no yard work, we should consider "sticking around for a one-minute."

See you ON THE AIR.

PUD - W3DQI

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Southern Patuxent Amateur Radio Club

Meetings: 2nd Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.
Southern Community Center, Lusby, Maryland

Nets: RACES Tuesdays at 7:15 p.m. 146.985
Phone Net every Thursday at 8:00 p.m. on 28.410
Swap N Shop every Wednesday at 9:15 p.m. on 28.410

Repeater: 146.985 (out)/146.385 (in) Sunderland, Maryland
443.30 (out)/448.30 (in) St. Leonard, Maryland

Address: 1445 Parran Road, St. Leonard, Maryland 20685

Information: Jay McClain - N3HUH (301) 994-2133 or
Dwayne Kincaid - WD8OYG (410) 586-2177

The November program featured a mini class on the SKYWARN system. Bob Paine - KA3ZCI discussed the history behind the program and the formal training required for participation. Bob has recently been named SKYWARN sub-net controller for this area and will use the 146.985 repeater for the net in times of dangerous weather. Additional information on SKYWARN and the National Weather Service was provided by Don Denisar - N3JTK, who was instrumental in the initial merging of the Amateur Radio Service and the NWS into what has evolved as the SKYWARN program.

Calvex '91 took place on November 19. Woody Schwartz - W3ZNW received the announcement to activate RACES operations at 6:35 p.m. The exercise simulated a "nuclear event" at the Calvert Cliff Nuclear Power Plant. Twelve RACES member participated in the drill that lasted until 10:40 p.m. RACES members were stationed at the Emergency Operations Center at the Calvert County Courthouse, the Sub-EOC at the Mt. Hope Community Center, a simulated de-contamination site at the Calvert High School, and a simulated shelter at the Northern High School. Communications were established between all four locations and represented Calvert Social Services and the Red Cross. Participating in the drill were Woodey - W3ZNW, Bob - KA3ZCI, John - KC3LX, Whit - W3AZF, Gail - W3IRE, Vince - KB3FS, Don - WB3JKV, Dwayne - WD8OYG, Earl - KA3WAR, Bill - N4VJ, James - KA3WRG and Stephen - KA3RPP.

In public service news, S. Patuxent members provided communication at the Mistletoe Run on December 7 for the Calvert Count Parks and Recs. The race started at

11:00 a.m. and was held at the Calvert High School in Prince Frederick.

Woody Schwartz - W3ZNW has stepped down from the ARRL Emergency Coordinator position for Calvert County. Woody has played an instrumental part as EC in the Calvert County RACES/ARES organization for the past 25 years. He will remain as Radio Officer for RACES/ARES and the Net Controller for the Tuesday RACES/ARES Net on the 146.985 repeater. Dwayne - WD8OYG replaces Woody as the EC for Calvert County.

The S. Patuxent ARC will sponsor a Novice/Technician class starting January 21. The 10 week class will cover the Novice and Technician theory as well as the 5 wpm code for Technician Plus. The class will meet in California, MD from 6 to 8 p.m. every Tuesday in the Latterday Saints Church meeting room on Old Rolling Road (behind K-Mart).

Dwayne - WD8OYG

OLD GOATS' MEETING (FCC Retirees)

The Old Goats' Net will hold a meeting in Florida on January 28-29 at the USA Motel, Winter Haven (Cypres Gardens) Florida. For information contact Frank Kratokvil - K4RE on the net frequency - 7210 kHz or phone (301) 345-6343, Rockville, Maryland.

AMRAD

Amateur Radio Research and Development Corp

Meetings: Second Thursday of each month, Fairfax County Library, McLean, Virginia
Repeater: WD4IWG 147.81 MHz in, 147.21 MHz out. Director, Jeff Brennan, WB4WLW
WD4IWG is an open repeater for FM voice and digital communications, especially for experimental modes. Autopatch available to members.
Data Address: CompuServe/Micronet number [72345,1050]
AMRAD CBBS: (703) 734-1387 Operated by Lawrence Kesteloot, N4NTL
E-Mail address is lkestel@csugrad.cs.vt.edu
Information: Andre Kesteloot, N4ICK (703) 356-5519 or Terry Fox (703) 698-7621

AMRAD is a worldwide club of several hundred Amateur Radio and computer experimenters. Its purpose is to develop skills and knowledge in radio and electronic technology; advocate design of experimental equipment and techniques; promote basic and applied research; organize technical forums and symposiums, collect and disseminate technical information; and provide experimental repeaters. *We are looking for people interested in any of the technical aspects of Amateur Radio.*

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN THE TECHNICAL SIDE OF AMATEUR RADIO ?

**Come Visit
AMRAD**

Amateur Radio Research & Development Corporation

**We are looking for people interested in
any of the technical aspects of Amateur Radio**

We need new ideas and new blood!

Meetings:

**Second Thursday of the month
Fairfax County Library, McLean, Virginia**

Next Meeting: Thursday January 9

**Some of the areas AMRAD has worked on over the years are:
Developed AX.25, Spread Spectrum, Digital Signal Processing
10-GHz Activity, Direction Finding**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION
CONTACT**

**Andre Kesteloot, President (703) 356-5519
Terry Fox, Vice President (703) 698-7621**

Stafford Amateur Radio Association

Meetings: Weekly, 0730 a.m. every Saturday morning. at the "Nothin Fancy" Cafe on Route 1. All meetings are informal.
Repeater: N4SMP/R 145.27 out 144.67 in. Autopatch for members.
Mailing: c/o George Gautney - N4SMP, 9 Skyview Ct., Stafford, VA 22554-5232
Information: Dick Kirby - W4GFB (703) 720-0406 or George Gautney - N4SMP (703) 659-5720
Packet: 145.07, W4GFB-2

Our president - KB4OB - is now out of the commuting rat race, since the FBI moved him to new quarters in Quantico. He still gets on the air with us each morning, but principally to gloat. There have been rumblings about coax and needles . . .

Tom - N4NW, our resident rare DX station, is working with KE3Q on a book about being an exotic DX station in Africa. He says he'll pull no punches and get to the nitty gritty details of getting a license to operate in various African countries. We'll keep you informed of progress on the book.

In a stunningly unexpected development, Tom Harmon - KD4AOD actually upgraded to Advanced Class. He arrived at the test site, expecting to take a multiple choice code test. When he discovered the test wasn't going to be multiple choice, he almost gave up and left, but after extensive browbeating, he gave in and took and actually passed the test! He's only been studying - he tells us - for the last 30 years.

It probably would have helped if he'd updated his 1955 License Manual! Licensed for less than a year now, he actually qualifies for membership in the Quarter Century Wireless Association (QCWA), because he was - decades ago (we won't say how many) - W2JDJ. Other upgrades at our November session included Lincoln J. Frost (about 79 years young), who went from no license to Technician. Other new Technicians are Terence Whalen, Derek W. Gallion, Robert Sargeant, and Kevin M. Cavanagh. Edward Whalen - KB4GEY, who also doubted his ability to pass the code test unless it was multiple choice, proved that his preparation was easily good enough for a fill-in-the-blank test and upgraded to General.

The next exam session at Stafford will be held on 31 January and, as always, walk-ins are welcome.

Spike - K9MX

What is Amateur Radio?

Amateur Radio, also known as "ham radio," is communicating. Hams, who must be licensed by their governments, operate two-way equipment from their homes and cars. They communicate with other hams across town or across the world on special sets of radio frequencies, or bands, that are set aside for Amateur Radio use.

Who are hams?

Just about anyone can be a ham—there are no age limits. Many people with disabilities find a door to the world in Amateur Radio. Some famous people are hams, but most are just people from all walks of life who like making new friends around the world.

How can I become a ham?

Getting a ham radio license is easier than you may think. In the US, the Novice (beginner's) license requires only passing a 30-question written exam on basic electronic theory and FCC rules and regulations, along with copying and sending Morse code at five words per minute. The new codeless Technician class license requires passing two written tests with a total of 55 questions.

The American Radio Relay League (ARRL) offers a wide variety of information for persons interested in radio communication. We can also provide you with a list of clubs and instructors in your area. Many local Amateur Radio clubs offer licensing courses several times a year.



For a prospective ham packet, contact the
ARRL, Dept Q, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111, tel 203-666-1541.

Montgomery Amateur Radio Club

Meetings:	1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month at 7:30 p.m. Executive Office Bldg. Montgomery Co. Government Center, 101 Monroe St., Rockville, MD. Park underground on G-2. 146.04 in (Rockville & Germantown)/146.64 out (Rockville)
Repeater:	M.A.R.C., P.O. Box 611, Gaithersburg, Maryland 20877-0611
Mailing:	Jeff Horlick - KZ3F (301)258-0112; Steve Todd - K2IYQ (301)253-4172
Information:	
Training:	Ken Nichols - KD3VK (301)977-5405; Dick Hayman - K3DML (301)251-8721

Oops! In last month's column we omitted the name of Al - KN3U from the short list of Able Assistants who conducted the MARC auction.

Reaching the end of the Public Service season hardly means that the Montgomery Amateur Radio Club has been inactive. Au contraire, mes amies, M.A.R.C. has continued to keep up the pace: The Novice and Technician Classes co-sponsored by Ken - KD3VK and Dick - KD3ML and actively supported by multiple volunteers teaching various modules of Amateur Radio theory finished up with a bang (and a high-pass success ratio!) on November 21. A formal VE session (courtesy of Pierre - KB3ZM and John - W3QF) was conducted the same evening for all licensing classes. Congratulations and kudos are extended to the outstanding cadre of M.A.R.C. volunteers who have given tirelessly of themselves week after week to ensure that "new blood" continues to filter into the Amateur Radio Service (and perhaps M.A.R.C.!).

At the M.A.R.C. November 6 meeting, there were seven first readings: Harold Bailey - WA3ZTI; Ronald Rubin - N3KQY; Lynne Mackey-Atha - N3KQR; Donald Atha - N3IOC; Cecil Roberts - Associate; Stewart Spansy - awaiting call; and Louis Martin who passed his Novice written exam at the meeting!

Stan - W3INK, Repeater Committee Chairman, reported that the process of moving the M.A.R.C. frequency to 146.955 has been initiated by the club. The reason for this is the requirement for a "null" to the south--due to our proximity to Lexington Park. When approved by T-MARC, we will be able to go from 10 to 100 watts. The present transmitter only runs up to 80 watts. A straw vote revealed solid support for the purchase of a solid state 100 watt transmitter. Stay tuned for further developments. Along these same lines, Al - NW2M suggested that the Club may wish to design new badges (containing city and state designators) since we are planning to change frequencies.

As promised in a previous column, here are the M.A.R.C. 1992 officers, elected by secret ballot on November 6:

President: Steve Todd - K2IYQ
Vice Pres: Bill Melton - W3WON
Secretary: Dick Bauer - WB3AA0
Treasurer: John Urlaub - KA3QFL
Board of Directors:
Mark Bary - N4EOC
Jeff Horlick - KZ3F
Erinn Tordella - N3HSA

The above slate of officers were "sworn in" on December 4. The Club congratulates each of them on their willingness to take on (or maintain) their respective responsibilities.

Due to non-stop business travel on the part of your Amateur Reporter (7 cities in 15 work days), yours truly was not fortunate to be present at the technical program presented by John - N3HBX, who spoke eloquently and at length on the "early days" of Moon Bounce, also known as EME. It is the Reporter's hunch, however, that this presentation may have been a follow-up to the excellent EME presentation by Al - NW2M several months back, which generated requests for more materials on this fascinating and technically challenging aspect of the hobby.

Finally, to round out the Club's agenda, M.A.R.C. conducted its second business meeting last month on November 20. The primary focus of this second meeting was to propose and vote favorably upon a motion from the floor to allocate a sum of money (not to exceed \$300) toward the potential purchase of a solid-state transmitter. As was explained to the membership, the primary rationale for this is to ensure the technical capability to provide backup and/or standby power for emergency Amateur communications: as for example, in the case of an ARES RACES civil defense-related crisis, as defined by the local authorities.

Erinn - N3HSA

Antietam Radio Association

W3CWC

Meetings: First and third Tuesdays of each month at 8:00 p.m. at the Civil Defense Center, Washington County Courthouse Hagerstown, Maryland

Nets: Tuesdays, 7:00 p.m. 146.940/340 MHz FM
Wednesdays, 7:00 p.m. 447.975/442.975 MHz FM
Thursdays, 7:00 p.m. 147.090/690 MHz FM

Mailing: Antietam Radio Association, P.O. Box 52, Hagerston, MD 21741

Two club meetings were held in November. A slate of officers for 1992 was presented at the first meeting and approved at the second. The new officers will be:

President: Bob Long - KD3JK
Vice Pres: Bob Roelke - N3GQS
Secretary: Mike Twedt - KA3VZR
Treasurer: Page Pyne - WA3EOP

President Bob Long recently upgraded to Extra. Congratulations are in order.

Barry Schmidt - N3ECM, the ARA Activities Manager, coordinated the ARES communications support for the JFK 50-mile Run on November 23. Over 20 operators participated, with Barry acting as NCS. Hams were stationed at the various checkpoints along the route between Boonsboro and the location some 40 miles away at which the runners left the C & O Canal tow path. REACT units covered the last 10 miles from the Potomac to Williamsport. No real problems; but NF3X and KA3YXN kept watch over a sick racoon near the tow path. This was reported to the National Park Service via the .34/.94 repeater and landline call route. The animal was destroyed by Park rangers who came to investigate.

Charlie Anderson - NF3X

Hungry Hams

The following list of Amateur Radio Eatin' Meetin's was provided by Perry Crabill - W3HQK. Perry says this list is "the product of my latest research about breakfasts and luncheons where hams get together on a regular basis." Do you know of other groups that would like to be listed?

MARYLAND

Cumberland

1st Saturday, 9:00 a.m.
Barton's Restaurant
Route 220 South (About 8 miles south of city limits.)

Wheaton

Every Wednesday, 11:30 a.m.
Anchor Inn
2509 University Blvd. W.
(Route 193 at Route 97)

VIRGINIA

Fairfax

Every Tuesday, 11:15 a.m.
Dino's Den
9534 Arlington Blvd
(Route 50 at Route 29)

Harrisonburg

Every Tuesday, 11:30 a.m. (Note new day)
Holiday Inn/Victor's Restaurant
Route 11 & Pleasant Valley Road
(I-81 Exit 62)

Charlottesville

Every Friday, 11:00 a.m.
Bojangle's Chicken Shack
Rio Road & Route 29 North

Do you know of other groups that would like to be listed?
Send us the information.

Sterling Park Amateur Radio Club

Meetings: Third Monday of the month except December, July and August
At Sterling Community Center Annex, Church Road (Rt. 625)
near Route 28, Sterling, Virginia

Mailing: Box 599, Sterling, VA 22170

Information: Dick Maylott, W4LMJ (703) 430-3842 or
Joe D'Angelo, WB2SAI (703) 444-1252

Just about a year ago, a number of SPARC'ers were discussing the subject of contests. In fact, it was right after last year's Sweepstakes contest. The question arose as to why don't we support a club entry for those contests which support club competition. So, with the completion of this year's ARRL Sweepstakes, we have completed one full year of club entries. We haven't set any new records, but Bill - KC4ATU, won the club certificate for the VHF January Sweepstakes; and Floyd - W4RW, and Dick - W4LMJ, were top club entries in the DX contest for CW and phone respectively. Entries are just now going in for the Sweeps, so those winners will be announced later. Of course, our Field Day entry was a good one, and our listing wound up in the top quarter of the 2A category, despite the fact that we were a relaxed group out for fun and not for high scoring.

The fall meetings have been well attended, thanks to having good programs, and refreshments as well as the usual door prize. Kudos are in order for President Joe D'Angelo's wife, for her baked goodies, which have made regular appearances at our recent meetings. Our October meeting featured an outstanding video presentation of the World RadioSport championship. It was professionally done, as a contrast from the usual amateurish DXpedition videos we are used to seeing. It was introduced by David French - N4KET, the well known CNN anchor man. In case you are not familiar with the competition, it was held in Seattle in conjunction with the Goodwill games, and brought many big names in DX-ing together for the first time.

Our November speaker was Mr. Harvey Harris, an engineer at Unisys until his retirement. His specialty is RADAR, and he gave a very interesting talk on that subject. He explained the theory of RADAR, various technologies used in generating RADAR signals, and their relative advantages and disadvantages. He is one of those few individuals who can draw decent diagrams on a blackboard. When he pictured a waveguide or a magnetron you could actually visualize it!

We also had some interesting comments from Dave - WA4TXE, well known local repeater operator. He explained a unique interference problem which proves that ham radio and rock music are not compatible. He had traced the trouble to car radios tuned to WWDC at 101 FM, with oscillation at 111.8, which generates a harmonic that is picked up at 446.2. Several very convincing demonstrations were conducted in the annex parking lot after the meeting. He is working with the FCC to try and get the problem rectified.

The club is planning to conduct a training session in the spring. Mark Johnson - WS3N (yes, he changed his call again) is coordinating the effort. If you, or someone you know is interested in getting licensed, or upgrading a current license, give Mark a call at 430-3804. A VE session will be held following the classes. Dates and times will be dependent upon need, availability, and coordination within the area.

There was no club meeting held in December. However, we will be meeting as usual until the third Monday of January.

Dick - W4LMJ

Ham Radio and Rock Music are Not Compatible!

A unique interference problem indicates that Ham radio and rock music are not compatible, according to Dave - WA4TXE. He traced the trouble to car radios tuned to WWDC at 101 FM, with oscillation at 11.8, which generates a harmonic that is picked up at 446.2.

(See Comments above)

National Capital DX Association

Meetings: Semi monthly, in members' homes.
On-the-Air: Every Sunday at 8:30 p.m. on 147.420. All are welcome.

OFFICERS

President: Mike Cizek, KO7V
Vice Pres: Leo Boberschmidt, KA3TGY
Secretary: Craig Stevens, KZ3H
Treasurer: Henry Herman, W3UJ

NCDXA will be offering field checking of QSL cards for DXCC applications at our club meetings. This service was just recently approved by the ARRL and NCDXA currently has four members who are approved DXCC Field Checkers. The service will save the new DXCC applicant both the cost of certified postage to and from Newington, and the gray hairs accumulated by worrying if those precious cards will ever be returned.

The next NCDXA meeting will be in February, date and place have not been determined yet. For information on NCDXA, or on DXing in general, please join our Sunday night meetings on the air on two meters.

Mike - KO7V

Packet Radio

By Dave - N4YPR

Mt Vernon ARC Poet Laureate

What is this thing they call Packet
With flashing screen and a wierd sounding racket?
It's a different kind of communication
Using a computer hooked up to your station.
Of multiple connects, all at the same time,
Using one frequence - it just blows your mind.
The passing of data is so very fast
And storing messages; Oh, it's a blast.
Or just get up on the Converse Node
And type back and forth in the QSO Mode.
Sometime were lucky and see some DX.
Trying to work them is not so complex.
So hook up your computer and TNC
And I'll see you on Packet.

73

Thanks Mt. Vernon ARC Ye Olde RF Output 11/91

Anne Arundel Radio Club

Meetings: First and Third Thursdays at 8:00 p.m.
Davidsonville Family Recreation Center, Queen Anne Bridge &
Wayson Roads off Md. Rt 214 near Annapolis

On-the-Air Thursdays when there is no club meeting, 2030 Local on 147.705/105
Tuesdays at 2030 Local time on 28.410
Maryland Slow Net (MSN) every evening at 1930 on 3.7170 MHz

Address: P.O. Box 308, Davidsonville, MD 21035
Margaret (Holly) Bevan, (301) 923-0229

Anne Arundel Radio Club participated in two public service events in October. The Anne Arundel County Chapter of the American Diabetes Association hosted its fourth annual walk-a-thon on Sunday October 20th along the Baltimore and Annapolis Scenic Trail Park. Ann Walter - N3JYU, Dave Walter - N3BFO and Doug Sweely - N2IBM handled the communications for the event.

The second event was Chesapeake Appreciation Days at Sandy Point State Park on the last weekend of the month. Mother Nature played a dirty trick on the sponsors of CA Days this year. Boat races, especially between skipjacks, always furnish the centerpiece for the affair. The park was so fogged in the entire weekend that the boat races and all of the aerial activities had to be canceled. In spite of the fog, there was a good crowd on Sunday and the attendees seemed to enjoy the exhibits, the ground activities, and the food. AARC ran a Special Events Station and a traffic-handling station, as well as furnishing the communications. Coordinator Carter Anderson - N3GRX was delighted that 36 Club members turned out to help him.

AARC will again take part in FIRST NIGHT ANNAPOLIS, a city-wide New Year's Eve celebration, featuring concert, theatre, ice dancing, roving performers, fireworks and much more. Club members will operate a traffic-handling station in the front window of "The Right Place," a light food restaurant on Main Street.

Paul Behrends - W4OLS continues to place in bicycle races here and there. He took third place (55+ class) in the Southern States Health Criterium in Richmond on August 13th. He also placed third in the Maryland State Games.

VE Exams are given at the AARC Clubhouse on the second Saturday of each month. On November 9th, Bob Israel - WC3I, Oscar Ramsey - NV3G, and Michael Katzmann - NV3Z administered 12 exams to 7 persons. Eight exams were passed; there were 4 upgrades. Dean Alley - NS3V, Bill Cox - KZ3B, Gordon Davids - WJ3K and Holly Bevan - N3BMB were on hand to help. The next exam at the AARC Clubhouse will be on January 11th. Recent upgrades to Extra Class include Bob Long - KD3JK, Bill Holmes - N3KBD, James Neiswonger - WB8DWD and Bob Usher - N3JIN.

LATE FLASH: William Edward "Bill" Cooke - K3CN became a Silent Key on December 2. Bill was a HAM for 55 years and a member of AARC for 34 years. He was AARC president in 1980. Many years before that he was active in BARC and was BARC president in 1950. He was also an active member of the QCWA and of the SOWP.

Bill was one of a trio of HAMS in Anne Arundel County who kept contact with various ships as they sailed on long voyages. He came to the aid of one couple when their sextant was washed overboard in the mid-Pacific and Bill connected them with experts on celestial navigation.

Bill's activities during the past 5 years of his life were severely curtailed when he contracted Guillain-Barre Syndrome following a flu shot. HAM radio then became "his life".

A 1992 scholarship has been established in Bill's name. Please send contributions to AARC, P.O.Box 308, Davidsonville, MD 21035. Make checks out to AARC and clearly mark "Cooke Scholarship" in the lower left hand corner.

Holly - N3BMB

Phone Patches

Excerpts from article submitted by
Chuck Reville - K3FT

Exposure of the general public to Amateur Radio via phone patches has generated considerable interest in Amateur Radio. This has provided a golden opportunity to explain just how Amateur Radio works, why we exist, and why Amateur Radio is so important to both the individual and the country.

Aboard the USNS Comfort, stationed in the Persian Gulf in support of Operation Desert Shield, the Amateur Radio phone patch system proved to be a MAJOR source of personal communications for the over 800 personnel deployed on the ship. Most of them had been called to duty with an average of 48-72 hours notice. Those magic words, "I have your party on the line" can only be fully appreciated by those who have been incommunicado from home, family, and friends for any length of time. Emotions on the USNS Comfort ranged from tears to cheers.

There were several Amateur Radio operators on board the ship. We ran phone patches during our off duty hours. Our ships position was tracked to assure we were operating in international waters. We used Amateur Radio because the ships radio gear was normally reserved for official business. We allowed no business communications on the Amateur bands and closely monitored the content of calls to assure adherence to both FCC and international regulations. We were conscientious about identifying every ten minutes. In other words, we tried very hard to play by all the rules.

Recently, there has arisen some most objectional forms of protest to phone patch operations. I'm referring to those amateurs (lower case use intentional!) who feel it is their sworn duty to expound loudly and longly about the apparent misuse and abuse of the phone patch privileges by some Amateur Radio operators.

It is true that there are those persons (licensed or not) who abuse the patch privilege. For those I say, "catch and prosecute them!" However, an on-the-air vigilante squad is not in the best interests of Amateur Radio. All they do is alienate those who listen. The way to solve a problem such as this requires discussion, investigation, and working with the proper authorities to permit the building of a proper case which will stand up in court. Resolution NEVER will be accomplished by vociferously spouting of opinions over the air.

Historical records bear out the great contributions by Amateur Radio operators over the many years in both peace and wartime. During wartime, CW operators, having learned through Amateur Radio to copy weak/noisy signals in pileups, were able to pull allied and hostile signals from the noise. Technicians, many having learned electronics skills during their Amateur Radio careers, found they were tasked to perform maintenance and repair to equipment in order to maintain communications links. During peacetime, these Amateurs work in the various fields covering the design, engineering, production maintenance, and repair of complex equipment which we utilize in our everyday life. Time and again the Amateurs fill the communications gaps during emergencies. Phone patches can be a legitimate and valuable part of the Amateur service.

Editor's Note: The above article has been excerpted and edited from a rather lengthy article provided by Amateur Radio operators who served aboard the USNS Comfort in the Persian Gulf during Operation "Desert Shield". The opinions expressed are the views of the signers:

Chuck Reville - K3FT
Chet Moore - N6ZO
Pat Benda - WB3W
Ralph Tompkins - WA1QJW

HELP WANTED: With Shuttle Experiment.

A U.S. space shuttle launch is planned for March 1992 as the first mission in a series of 10 flights called ATmospheric Laboratory for Applications and Science (ATLAS-1). One of the payloads, Space Experiments with Particle ACcelerator (SEPAC), will investigate the ionosphere and magnetosphere, transmitting an 8-kW electron beam modulated as a VLF transmitter by audio tones between 50 Hz and 7 kHz. Scientists will attempt to record the signals at various locations on earth, and examine them via spectrum analysis and other means.

Because there are a limited number of ground stations, Amateur Radio operators and high schools are invited to participate in listening and recording activities. A low-cost (\$35-40) receiver kit has been designed and tested by hams, and will be made available this fall.

The project, dubbed INTERactive Space Physics Ionosphere Radio Experiments (INSPIRE), will be the first time in history that such an extensive data monitoring network has been set up to cover the U.S., as 10,000 high schools are being asked to participate.

Hams will also help with daily pre-mission communications regarding high school involvement, and Amateur Radio will play a vital role during the mission by relaying schedule changes for SEPAC transmissions. Radio clubs can help their members and local high schools with kit building and setting up listening stations.

For details about INSPIRE, Amateurs should send an SASE with two first-class stamps to Jim Ericson, KG6EK, 226 Charles Street, Sunnyvale, CA 94086-6063. For information on school participation, send an SASE (two stamps) to Bill Pine, Science Department, Chaffey High School, 1245 N Euclid Avenue, Ontario, CA 91762.

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Estate sales for Widows Assistance handled by a FAR club will be published without cost.

Full name and address must be provided with each ad but need not be published. No ads will be accepted over the telephone and all ads must be pre-paid. Since no effort is made to investigate advertisers, no warranty can be implied.

Copy must be received by the 5th of the month preceding publication.

WANTED TO LEASE: 3/4/5 Bedroom single-family house for minimum of 1 year, with HF yagi, 80/40-meter wire and 2-meter Yagi permission, preferably with option to buy; prefer Northern Virginia but Maryland acceptable. \$950/month maximum. Steve Harrison KO0U. Call (703) 351-8724 0930-2100 Monday-Friday. Arlington, VA (01)

FOR SALE: Ham Paradise in Loudoun County, Virginia. \$229,900
1 1/4 hours from D.C., 45 minutes from Dulles airport. On top of the Blue Ridge Mountains at 1800 feet. 10 acres, no restrictions, underground facilities - no noise. Ideal DX and repeater site. With free standing 70 foot fire tower. No more climbing. Walk up the stairway to the top, then work on the antennas in a 7 x 7 foot enclosed space! 3/4 Bedrooms, Living Room, Kitchen, Dining, 2nd Living Room on second floor. Full walk-out basement with finished radio room. 115/230 volts. Finished office or sewing room, storage room, shop and laundry areas. Screened porch, deck, and extra large two car detached garage with RC openers. For full details call K4RZ collect at (919) 637-7329, or contact local agent, Marge Burton at (703) 847-9111. (03)

HOUSE FOR LEASE. Corner of Lawyer's Road and Gunnell Farms Dr., 1 1/2 mile outside of Vienna. Half acre lot with no antenna restrictions! 55 foot free-standing tower with tribander, 2-meter beam, rotor, and 80-meter inverted-V. Office/shack/fifth bedroom wired for 220 and 110, easy outside access. 3-level split, 4/5 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath, large paneled family room with fireplace. Large eat-in, all electric kitchen. Deck and covered porch. Gas heat, solar hot water. Three car garage and large shop. Available in mid-December for 1, 2, or 3 year lease. \$1400 per month. Jeff - W4NFA, Vienna, VA (703) 938-4351, ask for Betty Little. (01)

FOR SALE: Tri-Band Yagi, Telrex Antenna Model TB5EM. Recently removed from service. Collins KWM-2 Transceiver with Power Supply, Station Control, Speaker and Microphone. DOSARC Phone Tom Warren 301-894-6678, Maryland (01)

FOR SALE: Antenna Rotator CD-45 for inside tower mounting. Recently removed from service. Rotator complete with Control Unit and approx 100 ft of 8 conductor control cable. Phone John - W4HU (703) 536-9537, Arlington, Virginia (01)

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WORLD RADIO, Amateur Radio's monthly newspaper can be delivered to your doorstep for only \$14 per year (\$15.09 in California, \$24 overseas). Get the latest on how your fellow amateurs use their hobby to help others. Regular features are Contest and Hamfest announcements, Aerials, Amateur Satellites, Continuous Wave, Digital Bus, DX World, Search & Rescue Communications, FCC Highlights, Mobile, New Products, Propagation, QCWA, QRP, Station Appearance, Traffic, VE Exams, 10-10 International News. Send your subscription to **WORLD RADIO**, 520 Calvados Avenue, Sacramento, CA 95815. (Sw)

Become a part of one of the country's fastest growing vintage radio clubs. The Mid-Atlantic Antique Radio Club is an active group of radio collectors, restorers and historians. For a sample newsletter, write to Joe Koester at 249 Spring Gap South, Laurel, MD 20707. Phone (301) 725-4229. (Sw)

FOR SALE:

- ❑ Table top classic HF Amplifier with a remote power supply. Uses a pair of 813s, GG, 160-10 meters, 500+ watts output and includes documentation. Cost \$200
 - ❑ Antenna Tuner (HB 2kw heavy duty) Excellent condition, with documentation Cost \$100
 - ❑ DAIWA Model CN-520 SWR meter, 1.8-60 MHz. 200W & 2000W scales. Excellent condition. Cost \$45
 - ❑ ICOM model IC-A20 Aircraft portable transceiver, case and wall-charger. Includes AM comms and VOR Cost \$200
- Bill - W4NFR (703) 347-7262, Warrenton (01)

FOR SALE: ICOM - IC-725. Brand New \$650
Bob Halper - WB3ILE Phone (301) 572-4719,
Beltsville, MD (12)

FOR SALE: HEATH SB-220 Amplifier ... \$525
COLLINS F4554A 3.1 kHz Filter \$35
Dave Rogers - N4JGQ (703) 237-5465 (12)

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THE RC OF JHS 22 NYC, INC, P.O. Box 1052,
New York, NY 10002. 'Round the clock
HOTLINES: Voice (516) 674-4072 (12)

FOR SALE: KENWOOD TS-520-S Transceiver (in original box), VFO-520 and DG5 Digital Display, with all manuals and cables. All in perfect condition. Using as backup rig. Package deal for \$550
Stan - AB4OR (703) 866-6122, evenings.
Springfield, Virginia (01)

FOR SALE: DRAKE STATION: R4C, T4XC, MS4, Original Manuals, Microphone. Mint Condition. \$500
Call Josh - N3KHU Call (301) 762-6262,
Gaithersburg, Maryland (01)

WANTED: Rohn Bx Tower sections - BX#5, BX#6 with mounting stubs.
Wally - N4XSM (703) 459-4190, Woodstock, Virginia (02)

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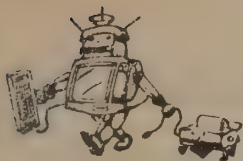
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(072)

SHACK SALES

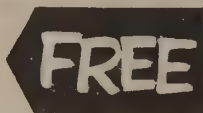
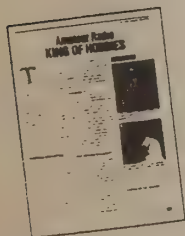


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FOR SALE: COMMODORE C-64 computer and power supply - Cost \$50 Make Offer Bill - W4NFR (703) 347-7262, Warrenton (01)

WANTED: Donation of IBM compatible computer with at least 10 meg hardrive to be the packet comuter at the weather service. Contact SKYWARN Net Manager Dan Gropper - KC4OCG (703) 281-2358 or 281-7458 (01)

HOMELESS: Old but very capable Daisywheel printer, displaced by beautiful young Laser. Served Auto-Call well for several years. Now looking for a home. Radio Shack Model 510, 15" carriage, several wheels, excellent condition. Cost \$670 new in '85. Make offer. Auto-Call (703) 536-8469, McLean, VA (01)

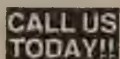


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This 16-page booklet is packed with information on the basics of ham radio ... how to get a license and who to contact for your test. To obtain a free copy, telephone NARA at 1-800-GOT-2-HAM.

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All used only 6 months. Bruce Bates - KD4DGP
Falls Church, VA 22046 (703) 241-2288 (01)

FOR SALE: HEATHKIT linear amplifier Model SB-200 with manual and spare set of new 572B tubes \$365
Call Jim at (301) 868-7061
Clinton, Maryland (01)

FOR SALE: DRAKE SPR-4 0.2-30 MHz solid-state communications receiver. Ten standard 500 kHz segment, up to 14 accessory crystals may be installed. AM, CW, USB, LSB, crystal calibrator, notch filter, built-in speaker. 115 VAC or 12 VDC (DC accessory cable included). Standard band segments include 0.2-0.5 MHz and 0.5, 1, 6, 7, 9.5, 11.5, 15, 17.5, and 21.5 MHz. Accessory bands installed include 9, 10, and 18 MHz. Crystals available for about \$8 each. Good condition cosmetically, excellent electrical condition. Supplied with manual, crystal ordering info, copy of 1972 CQ Magazine product review, and parts listing from Drake. \$150 firm
Prefer pickup but will ship for \$10 additional. Paul Bock - K4MSG, RR1, Box 347, Hamilton, VA 22068 (703) 882-4745 (evenings). (01)

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FOR SALE Yaesu 2-meter Handheld,
Model FT-209RH

☐ NC Quick Charger DC Adaptor MH-12

☐ AT2 Speaker Microphone.

DOSARC Phone om Warren 301-894-6678,
Temple Hills, Maryland (01)

FOR SALE: Ten-Tec Model 561 Corsair II with
manual, matching power supply/speaker,
705 desk mic and 2.4 kHz, 500 Hz, 250 Hz
filters. Extremely clean, mint \$975
Stan - KA8SFP (703) 720-3724, Stafford (02)

FOR SALE: DRAKE L4B Linear Amplifier. Has
had little use. Good condition. \$700
K4LMB (703) 536-8469, McLean, VA (01)

Attention Amateur Radio Newsletter Editor.
AMATEUR RADIO NEWS SERVICE is an
organization of publisher and editors of
Amateur Radio newsletter and members
engaged in public relations. Its purpose is to
assist editors in any way possible. For
information, write to Lee Knirko - W9MOL,
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KIKUSUI PAD 55-20L, 55 volt, 20 Amp
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Caber boots - used twice. Best Offer
Burt (301) 330-8274, Gaithersburg, MD (01)

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Nice 30S-1 kilowatt amplifier, WE \$850

Another 30S-1 with a few scratches .. \$750

312B-4 station control console, wattmeter
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Ed Bruns - W3EKT, 3420 Shady Lane,
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☐ The desk part of the Johnson Desk
kilowatt Amplifier.

Howard M. Mills - W3HM Rt #3, Box 712,
Harpers Ferry, WV 25425. Call D.C. (202)
647-2428 (Work) or (304-876-6483 (Home
after 7:00 p.m.) (05)

FOR SALE: ICOM 2AT, BP-3, BP-4, DC-1,
Charger, Duckie, New PA trans. \$125
Bob - N3FRT (202) 364-7217, Falls Church,
Virginia (01)

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Saturday 8 p.m. (local time) on the club
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see the Auto-Call Index for club news column.

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Viking 1 & vfo
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JAN
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Copy for Auto-Call will be accepted in any form - handwritten, typed, compatible computer disk or modem. All hard copy is re-typed to preserve uniformity of style in the magazine. We use Word Perfect 5.1 word processing program, Hayes compatible modem (300 or 1200 baud) and can use either 3½" or 5¼" MS-DOS diskettes.

In determining space requirements, figure about 600 words per page (50 lines at 12 words per line), including the space taken up by headings, photographs, etc. Either black-and-white or color photos can be used as long as the contrast is good. Master copy, which is to be reproduced directly, should be in black ink on white paper and should be in proper page ratio. (Copy space is 7" wide by 9" high.) Copy can be reduced or enlarged as necessary.

Columns from Foundation member clubs are eagerly solicited and any items of general Amateur Radio interest are most welcome. The editor does reserve the right to edit or reject any portion of any copy submitted and to make minor changes to make copy fit available space.

SHACK SALES

Deadline for copy is the 5th of the month preceding the publication date. Shack Sales will **NOT** be accepted over the telephone. Full address must be provided for our reference but need not be published. Each ad must include the call sign or the full name of the advertiser. If the full address is not included, we prefer to include the city along with a telephone number so that readers will know whether a long-distance charge is involved. The entire telephone number - including city and state - is counted as only one word. We do not count postal zip codes. Otherwise, each word, abbreviation, model number or group of letter/numbers is counted as one word. Remittance must accompany each ad.

See next column for additional information on advertising. For further information, phone the Auto-Call editor at (703) 536-8469, McLean, VA.

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DISPLAY ADS are "boxed" and may contain artwork or photographs. They may be placed along with the Shack Sales or displayed in other sections of the magazine. Requests for specific locations will be honored if practical but cannot be guaranteed.

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1/4	4½	33.00	38.00	41.00	43.00
1/6	3	22.00	26.00	28.00	30.00
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1/18	1	8.50	10.00	11.00	11.50

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Extra charges for halftone photos
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			1	2 Anne Arundel	3 Mobileers Shennandoah	4 Stafford <u>EXAMS</u> Chesapeake,
5	6 Adams County Dept of State	7 Antietam PG Wireless	8 Pentagon S.Patuxent --- FAR ---	9 AMRAD Mt. Vernon MADRAS No. Virginia	10 Alexandria SMARC Vienna	11 Stafford <u>EXAMS</u> Anne Arundel DOS/GW Univ Mt Vernon
12 <u>EXAMS</u> Bedford, VA	13 PVRC	14 Frederick Fauquier	15 BARC MiniFest Goddard MARC QCWA #137	16 Anne Arundel QCWA #20	17 Rock Creek Shennandoah	18 Capital City Tri County Stafford <u>EXAMS</u> Laurel
19 Richmond Frostfest	20 Ole VA Hams Sterling Park	21 Antietam Arlington Woodbridge	22 Laurel	23 St. Mary's MADRAS	24 New Carrollton Vienna	25 Stafford
26 Adventists	27	28 Columbia	29 QCWA #20	30	31 <u>EXAMS</u> Stafford, VA	

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